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THE TIMES

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THE TIMES

Tomorrow

More people are playing chess and more watching it being played than ever before. In Saturday, a former British chess champion reports on the grand prix chess circuit and the build-up to the next world championships. Also in the eight-page arts and leisure section are features on Travel: The call of the wild in Alaska; Values: How to buy your holiday luggage; Drink: Alsace wines, and news and views of the forthcoming week's events in the arts.

£200m for computer industry

The Government is to help the computer industry develop new, "more intelligent" computers, in a programme that will cost up to £200m over five years and is designed to prevent Britain falling behind Japan and the United States Back page

CND poll check

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament is to appoint a full-time worker for the general election campaign who will draw up a register of all candidates' views on nuclear weapons Page 3

Stiffer sentence

General Alfonso Armada, who was sentenced to six year's imprisonment for his part in the unsuccessful Spanish coup in February, 1981, had his sentence increased to the maximum 30 years by the Spanish Supreme Court Page 8



Nicaragua anger

President Reagan's four-point proposal for Central America was denounced in Managua, where the Sandista authorities called on the people to take part in armed street marches throughout the country Page 6

Harrods claim

Professor Roland Smith, chairman of the House of Fraser, claims that an independent pension fund report challenges Lonrho's argument that shareholders risk nothing by demerging Harrods Page 17

Gdansk arrest

Gdansk police detained Mrs Bozena Rybicka, Mr Lech Walesa's secretary, and searched her flat. Her husband said she was stopped when she left Mr Walesa's home

Ideology clash, page 9

Schoolboys die

Two boys aged 15 were found dead in a shed in Weston-super-Mare, Avon. The father of one said he had heard that police had taken away samples of a solvent Page 3

Teachers' jobs

Seven thousand teachers' jobs could be lost in 1983-84 but colleges of further education expect to employ 1,000 new lecturers in the next 12 months Page 3

Thatcher urged to end speculation before local polling

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

There is a growing belief in some quarters of the Conservative Party that the Prime Minister has mishandled public speculation over the date of the general election and so narrowed rather than widened her room for manoeuvre.

The particular complaint, voiced both by some who want a June election and some who prefer October or later, is that expectation has been encouraged that an announcement of some kind is to be made in the next ten days or so, once the results of the English and Welsh district elections next Thursday have been assessed.

If that proves true, the party fears that Mrs Margaret Thatcher will have needlessly exposed herself to a charge of cowardice or opportunism or both, whatever decision she then makes.

Several ministers, including some who have her ear, now say that the Prime Minister can only avoid this trap by stating her intentions before the local election results have been declared.

Backbench Conservatives on either side of the argument for and against a June election have expressed opinions on these lines to their whips in the course of this week.

Central to their argument is the view that the local elections are unlikely to convey any clear message. The assessment exercise carried out by Conservative Central Office is a daunting one, with votes being cast in 12,000 different wards.

Local government elections produce a far lower turn-out than general elections, with Labour voters more liable to abstain than Conservatives. An adjustment must be made to measure the true Conservative strength, but no one knows what that adjustment should be.

Other allowaces have to be made for the greater importance of a candidate's personal qualities in local elections and the greater number of real or notional independent candidates.

In all, the most skilful *analysis of next week's results is* unlikely to tell the Prime Minister anything certain, and her decision whether to go to *the country in June will have to* be based on her wider political judgment.

Difficult though that judgment may be, Mrs Thatcher's supporters believe that she has everything to gain by making and announcing a decision in the next few days.

They expect her to base that decision on a cool calculation of when she would have the best chance of winning, but they want her also to have some chance of pretending more disinterested motives.

Meanwhile the ranks of Conservatives who favour delay appear to have grown this week with the growing belief that real economic recovery may have begun.

Speaking at the Cutlers' Feast in Sheffield last night, the Prime Minister said that things were looking up and invited her hosts to look forward to the future with some optimism.

She cited the evidence of confidence in the most recent survey by the Confederation of British Industry, and the "excellent" first quarter results from ICI, with profits up from £62m to £128m. Even steel production was recovering, Mrs Thatcher said, and things were moving ahead.

In the Commons Mr Leon Brittan, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, said that in recent weeks there had been a number of encouraging indicators pointing to modest economic recovery. They included evidence of higher manufacturing production and total output and a substantial improvement in business confidence, which was at its highest level since 1976.

Mr Robin Cook, an opposition Treasury spokesman, *accused Mr Brittan of smug* satisfaction at the ruin which his policies had wrought on British industry.

At Prime Minister's Question Time the preelection sparring wazed hot. The Opposition accused Mr Michael Heseltine, the Defence Secretary, of trying to smear leaders of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament.

The Prime Minister, in an argument about rates, declared that Labour-controlled lacal authorities were "very big spenders of other people's money".

Mr Michael Foot, stopped her short by asking how much rates had increased in true-Blue Surrey. They were much too high in Surrey, Mrs Thatcher *had to confess.*

Hard left's campaign, page 2

Mr Robert Dillan, US Ambassador to Beirut, pointing out the Embassy bomb damage to Mr Shultz.

Syria blamed for deadlock as Shultz shuttle begins

From Our Correspondent, Beirut

Mr George Shultz, the American Secretary of State *held five-hour talks at the* hilltop Presidential palace in eastern Beirut yesterday in a Middle East peace mission which is emerging *as a high-*level negotiating shuttle. United States officials revealed en route to Beirut from *Jerusalem that Mr Shultz* expects to have about 10 meetings over the next two weeks with Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister.

"I am here to bring these negotiations closer to a successful conclusion ... I am here to help in the process of working out an agreement for the leaving of all foreign forces from Lebanon," Mr Shultz said on landing at the heavily guarded Beirut airport. He intends to shuttle between the Israeli and Lebanese capitals until the basis of an agreement is reached.

Mr Shultz flew by helicopter to see the devastation at the American Embassy in West Beirut which was badly damaged by a powerful bomb explosion on April 18.

A British Embassy official said that some American Embassy officials now are working out of the British Embassy about 700 yards away, *guarded* by four armoured marine vehicles.

Mr Shultz then drove to the presidential palace in the *suburb of Baabda, southeast of* Beirut, for his meeting with Mr Amin Gemayel, the Lebanese President and Mr Elie Salem, *Foreign Minister.* He was accompained by Mr Philip Habib, the special American envoy to the Middle East, and *by Mr Morris Draper, the chief* American negotiator at the troop withdrawal talks between Lebanon, Israel and the United States.

After the meeting Mr Shultz said: "This has been a very rewarding day.... And of course a moving day in visiting our emplouyees at the American Embassy and seeing that sight, and rewarding in talking with President Gemayel and Foreign Minister Elie Salem and their colleagues."

He added: "We had a very full review of all the issues here just as we did in Israel. I can see that there are quite a number of difficult issues. At least I think we can now have some sense of definition of them."

Earlier, Mr Salem told a group of reporters that Lebanon refused to sign an agree*ment with Israel that could in* any way harm its relations with the Arabs and specifically with Syria.

He also acknowledged that the future status of Major Saad Haddad, the renegade Lebanese Army commander whose *militia in South Lebanon is* backed by Israel, remained a sticking point in the negotiations. He said another *stumbling block was the issue* of joint Lebanese-Israeli patrols in South Lebanon.

He said that Lebanon would *demand an American presence* in any joint committee established with Israel to oversee the terms of a withdrawal agreement, *saying Israel does not* want Americans on all of the proposed supervising bodies.

The negotiations have been dragging on for the past four months and any optimism expressed by either the Lebanese or Israeli side in the past few weeks has now been dampened by the tough stance adopted by the Syrian government. American officials said privately the Syrian position appears aimed at blocking an

Continued on back page, col 5

Navy will stop relatives at sea

By Henry Stanhope Diplomatic Correspondent

Britain has warned Senor *Osvaldo Destefanis,* who is threatening to take a boatload of Argentines to visit soldiers' graves on the Falkland Islands, that they *will not be allowed to* land.

Senor Destefanis says the ship will sail tomorrow, *although the International* Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has withdrawn its support. But the Foreign Office, *in its sternest declaration so far* on the issue, said last night that there could be no question of the British Government granting access to the disputed islands.

Officials would not elaborate but the clear inference is that Royal Navy ships patrolling a 150-mile exclusion zone around the Falklands would turn away the Argentine vessel.

The Foreign Office statement said that Whitehall was still receiving reports that Senor Destefanis was persisting with his plans, despite the ICRC's view that these were "contrary to the prinicple of neutrality" which the Red Cross was called upon to defend.

The Government had insisted all along that it had no objection to a visit provided that it was organized by the ICRC as a purely humanitarian venture, but the arrangements made by Senor Destefanis had been judged unacceptable by the ICRC "for reasons of principle". It was therefore unacceptable to the British Government

Whitehall still hopes that the relatives will not sail tomorrow as planned, because it would be *extremely embarrassing if* the Royal Navy had to be seen refusing passage to a party of mourners.

Senor Destefanis himself had promised that he would avoid any confrontation and would hold a service at sea outside the *150-mile limit if barred from* sailing further.

But even this would be seen as unwelcome publicity for Britain

Police raids 'breached the law'

The Home Secretary last night published a unique report from the Police Complaints Board, which drew attention to grave and exceptional circumstances surrounding the 1981 police raids in Railton Road, Brixton, south London (Anthony Bevins writes).

The undated report, delivered to Mr Whitelaw last year, said that the board had been concerned with "breaches of the law" and "the implication that the unprofessional conduct of officers engaged on that operation could be a reflection of their conduct of less sensitive occasions."

Judge refuses ban on suicide booklet

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The Voluntary Euthanasia Society formerly known as EXIT, intends to continue to *supply its suicide booklet after a* High Court judge yesterday refused to grant the Attorney General a declaration that its *distribution was illegal.*

Mr Justice Woolf ruled that in some circumstances supply of *A Guide to Self-Deliverance would* amount to a criminal offence under the Suicide Act 1961, which prohibits aiding, abetting, counselling or procuring a suicide. But he would not make a blanket declaration which would effectively amount to a ban.

It would be wrong, he said, for the civil court to usurp the task of a jury in a criminal court and declare what conduct was criminal. Each case would have to be decided on its facts. Far from precipitating a suicide, the booklet might in some cases deter someone from commiting suicide.

The ruling, which the judge said either side could appeal against, opens the way for Sir Michael Havers QC, the Attorney General, to bring a criminal prosecution over the booklet which has been linked to at least 15 deaths.

But Miss Barbara Smoker, chairman of the society's executive committee, said: "Obviously we do not want to break the law in this matter. But I do not think we would be frightened of a criminal prosecution as such, although we would be frightened of a case hand-picked by the police to show us up in a bad light; we act for the benefit of people and cannot afford that sort of wrong image."

Welcoming the judge's ruling that publication was not illegal in itself and that the booklet "provides a satisfactory treatment of the subject which would not be easy to improve upon", Miss Smoker said that "in all probability" the society would continue to supply the booklet.

But she added that it might broaden the undertaking that recipients have to give, to the effect that they had no immediate intention of taking their lives. "It would seem that we can supply the booklet to those we know have no present intention to commit suicide.

"The Attorney General's attempt to ban the booklet has failed and the society now calls upon the Government to amend the law to allow those who are incurably ill or disabled to take their own lives if they wish", she said.

Although the society had raised £14,000 from its members for a fighting fund, the judge yesterday ordered the Attorney General to bear both sides' costs in the case.

Leading article, page 13
Law Report, page 14.

ICI boosts hopes on economy

The stock market surged to within a fraction of its record high yesterday as the leaders of Britain's biggest industrial companies confirmed that the economy is on the mend and the Prime Mnister forecast lower interest rates.

At its peak in early afternoon the *FT* ordinary index was 3.6 points up at 702.6 after ICI astonished even the most optimisitic forecasters with profits for the first three months of the year which had more than doubled.

Mr John Harvey-Jones, ICI chairman, reported that the company made £128m between January and March against just £62m in the early part of 1982.

But profit-taking damped down the euphoria in late dealings and at the close the market had slipped back to 696.8, down 2.2 on the day.

In the Commons, Mrs *Thatcher said that real interest* rates should decline in the wake of further falls in the rate of inflation.

Taking its cue from the Prime Minister and the recent strength of sterling the Bank of England unveiled a new £1 billion index-linked gilt stock, *which the City* immediately dubbed "election tap" because it has been constructed in such a way as to be attractive even if there were a change of government.

Market report, page 16
Business News, page 17

Nazi 'fake factory' denied

From Michael Binyon Bonn

East Germany refused yesterday to be drawn into the Hitler diaries controversy, and denied accusations that a Potsdam factory was turning out forged Nazi documents. The publication of the diaries in the West German magazine Stern has led to a fierce debate over their authenticity and to reports of an East German factory.

The Foreign Ministry in East Berlin said: "We have nothing to do with the Hitler diaries affair and their publication in Stern.

Several left-wing West German commentators have attacked the publication of the diaries on the ground that they will inevitably lead to a new Hitler myth.

*The Greens party said irres*pective of whether the diaries were genuine, their only aim was to whitewash Hitler. "It is our task to oppose this falsification of history with all our force." Frau Manon Maren-Grisebach, the chairman, said.

Frenchmen hanged in Zimbabwe

From Stephen Taylor Harare

Two Frenchmen, former mercenaries in the Rhodesian forces, were hanged at dawn here yesterday for the murder of a café owner in *1981.* The hangings went ahead in spite of appeals by the French Government for clemency and three recent meetings *between French* and Zimbabwean officials both here and in Paris.

Gevais Boutanquoi, who was 34, and *Simon Chemouil,* aged 29, were the first whites to be executed since Zimbabwe's independence three years ago.

Only two other men of about twenty sentenced to death in that time have been hanged. The remainder had their sentences commuted to life imprisonment by President Canaan Banana.

Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, has frequently expressed opposition to capital punishment but in October last year two black men convicted of murder and robbery went to the gallows.

Boutanquoi and Chemouil were found *guilty in the High* Court 14 months ago of stabbing and shooting Herr Erhard Kraft, a café owner in the northern town of Karoi, and robbing him of about $Z800 (£530).

● **Murder planned:** Confirming the hanging, a Justice Ministry spokesman recalled that the two had planned the *murder of Herr Kraft in order* to rob him, AFP reports.

The two men and two other French former mercenaries sentenced to lesser penalties in connexion with the killing came to what was then Rhodesia in 1977 to fight for the white minority regime

They were part of an 80-strong French-speaking mercenary unit of the Rhodesian Army that was dissolved in 1978

Police consider kidnap charges

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

Mrs Shirley Goodwin, the London woman, held for almost a week by alleged kidnappers seeking a £50,000 ransom, was yesterday reported to be physically unharmed but exhausted after her release on Wednesday.

Last night Scotland Yard detectives were understood to *be drawing up charges against* three men held in a police operation involving 120 officers and a news blackout. For the second time this year London police have ended an alleged kidnapping, freeing the victims and making arrests without any money being lost.

As Mrs Goodwin, freed late on Wednesday night, spent most of yesterday resting in bed at her home in Hackney, east London, Mr Geoffrey Gordon, the family solicitor said: "She needs a lot of rest and there will obviously be mental scars".

Mrs Goodwin, aged 40, was found wandering in the street in Mitcham, south London, still in the night dress and dressing gown *in which she disappeared* on Thursday evening last week. She was helped into Mitcham police station shortly after 11 pm by a passerby.

Mr Gordon said Mrs Goodwin, the mother of three children, was at first: "in a dazed and mentally battered condition. She is now more composed mentally but is extremely tired and not able to cope with normal incidents of life". She was also, he said, still "weak on her pins".

News of her release was passed to her husband John, who is in prison. Early yesterday morning Mr Goodwin was taken from his cell at Wandsworth Prison and connected by *telephone with his* wife at Scotland Yard. The couple spoke for 15 minutes and Mr Goodwin was said to be *relieved by his wife's release.*

During the past week Mr Goodwin had been advising his family and the police in the handling of the kidnapping and negotiations. Yesterday Scotland Yard said they were still searching for two men

Anglo-US Laker talks end in deadlock

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

Two days of talks in the United States between British and American officials over a legal dispute arising from the collapse of Laker Airways have ended in deadlock.

The talks related to a Justice Department investigation into charges by Sir Freddie Laker that seven leading airlines, including British Airways and British Caledonian, conspired to drive him out of business.

The British Embassy in Washington said yesterday that *the talks "failed to resolve the* disagreements between the British and the US about the applicability of American anti-trust law to the United Kingdom-United States air services agreement".

The British delegation flew back to London on Wednesday, and the British Government will now consider what steps to take. No date for further talks has been set.

Diplomatic sources here said that the investigation was straining Anglo-American relations. In the British view, the issue involved the same kind of extra-territorial concerns which *arose during the Soviet gas* pipeline dispute.

The British Government has protested about the investigation, *and its team,* led by Mr Handley Stevens, Under-Secretary at the Department of Trade, has argued against the applicability of US anti-trust law.

The Justice Department has refused to comment publicly on the case, but the investigation could lead to charges and financial assessments against British assets in the United States. These could have serious, adverse effects on the two airlines, officials said.

A private civil case has also been filed in Washington by the insolvent Laker Airways, accusing the seven airlines of forcing Sir Freddie's leading creditors to cut off funds to him by threatening them with a big loss of business.

● There is provision in the air services treaty between the United States and Britain for invoking outside arbitration in unresolved disputes, Derek Harris writes.

Wall walk for Tower visitors

The Government has tried to make amends for the unjust execution of a knight more than 600 years ago. An exact reproduction of Sir Simon Burley's bedroom complete with bed, stool, chest, coat and helmet, behind glass in a section of the Tower of London never before opened to the public.

The wall walk will go on view without extra charge next Thursday after an official opening by the Queen on Wednesday, when the whole tower will be closed for the day.

The walk round the eastern heights will ease crowding and help the tower to stay a top attraction for tourists.

The tower attracted about two million visitors last year, compared withabround three million in the jubilee year of 1977, and brought in more than £5.3m for the Government.

Sir Simon was chosen by the Black Prince as tutor for the future Richard II. He wa the first man to be executed on Tower Hill after being "falsly accused," the tower authorities said.

London hostel for refugees

A residential hostel for people seeking political asylum in Britain was opened in London yesterday by Dr David Owen, of the Social Democratic Party.

The centre, in Fairmount Road, Brixton, was established by a group of refugee organizations with the approval of the Home Office. Its object is to provide accommodation and practical help for refugees, many of whom would otherwise be sent to remand centres.

Court rejects band ban

Grimsby magistrates yesterday overturned a council decision to ban weekly practices of the Boys and Girls Brigade band and awarded the musicians £1,000 costs.

Grimsby council stopped the sessions in January after a resident had complained that the noise from the Wellington Street practice room upset his wife. The band appealed and after listening for an hour to rehearsals also near the neighbour's house to assess noise, the *magistrates came down on the* side of the band.

Container ship conversion

The Royal Navy is to convert the 27,867-ton container ship Astronomer into a carrier for helicopters, probably in the Falklands.

The merchant vessel, which has seen service in the South Atlantic, has been chartered by the Navy. It is in Cammell Laird's Birkenhead shipyard waiting to be fitted with a 1,000-ton prefabricated flight deck and hangar, being leased from the United States Navy.

Theatre sold for £420,000

The Playhouse Theatre in Edinburgh will be sold to a consortium of businessmen for £420,000, the city council decided yesterday. A Conservative motion was carried by 31 votes to 30.

The consortium is headed by Mr Edward Ramsay, a property manager. Gertrude Barton, a Labour councillor, described the sale as "municipal asset stripping of the most vulgar degree".

Job hunters

The number of new Cambridge University graduates who were still seeking work at the end of last year was the highest on record. Cambridge University Careers Service gives the total as 190, or 8 per cent of those whose destinations were known, compared with 168, or 7 per cent in 1981. Women fared worse than men, as in the two previous years – with 10 per cent still seeking jobs.

Murder charge

Robert William Waldron, aged 37, unemployed, of Compton Way, Everton, will appear before Liverpool magistrates today, charged with murdering Andrew Waldron, aged five, his nephew.

Invincible back

The carrier Invincible, with Prince Andrew on board, returned to Portsmouth yesterday after three months on exercises in the Caribbean and Atlantic.

Correction

The cost to the Transglobe Expedition for the crossing of the Arctic Ocean through the North Pole was £15,000, not £5m, as suggested in a news report on April 18.

Labour hard left to organize separate election campaign

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Labour's hard left yesterday gave notice that it will organize *its own campaign for the next* general election.

Mr Kenneth Livingstone, leader of the Greater London Council, and Mr Reginald Race, MP for Haringey Wood Green, announced at a Commons press conference that a new Labour splinter group, Socialists for a Labour Victory, was starting "an important new campaign" to assist the election of a majority Labour Government on the basis of socialist policies.

The policies listed included the nationalization of the top 25 companies and the renationalization of industry which had been hived off by the Conservatives, "with compensation only on grounds of proven need". Both these policies have been included in the election manifesto.

The group's recruiting leaflet, which has been sent out to constituency parties, said: "We will campaign for the election of Labour's socialist policies to be clearly stated in the Labour Party's official campaign document and manifesto, and that the party as a whole campaigns for them. We will campaign ourselves on the basis of these policies."

Mr Race said last night that up to 20 Labour MP's had been involved in the creation of the group, but he refused to identify them.

Mrs Helen John, one of the founders of the Greenham Common peace camp and a sponsor of the new campaign, said yesterday that she would not now be standing against Mr James Callaghan, in Cardiff South-east, in spite of the fact hat he would "not be campaigning on Labour Party policy".

But she did say that other Greenham women, Women for Life on Earth, would be standing against Labour candidates who did not support unilateral nuclear disarmament. "We are supporting Socialists for a Labour Victory inasmuch as we are supporting unilateralist candidates", she explained.

The threat to party unity posed by the new hard left campaign was also underlined by another press conference, organized by the left-wing Campaign for Labour Party Democracy and the Labour Coordinating Committee, to announce the publication of an appeal for unity sponsored by 276 party members.

They said: "Without some give and take on both sides, the division within the party cannot be bridged."

The latest newsletter form the Campaign for Labour Party Democracy went even further, saying: "Our joint initiative is clearly unacceptable both to extremist 'moderates' and the extremist 'left'. Ken Livingstone has already vehemently denounced it. He claims that 'the CLPD and the LCC want to bend over and kiss the boot of Golding' and that our proposal amounts to an 'accommodation with the witch-hunters'.

"Those whose actions risk splitting the party and handing over the general election to the Tories and the Liberal SDP Alliance must be isolated, and brought to their senses before it *is too late. Above all, Labour* must regain its credibility as a united party, without which we cannot win".

● Leaders of the "Triple alliance" of coal, steel and rail unions fed election fever yesterday with an appeal to more than half a million state industry workers to vote Labour (Our Labour Editor writes).

Mr James Knapp, the new left-wing general secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen, said that the 120 delegates to a special conference of the unions at TUC headquarters in London had agreed to work for the return of a Labour government.

The unions agreed a nine-point programme of cooperation to press for increased government spending on the basic nationalized industries.

● The Wales TUC, which starts its annual conference in Cardiff today, is likely to give its full backing to the Labour Party's national economic assessment with its implied wage restraint (Our Labour Reporter writes).

The delegates, who represent 630,000 trade unionists – about two thirds of the Welsh workforce – may be faced with a left-wing emergency motion from Merthyr Trades Council calling for a ban on pay talks with any government. The general council was hoping last night that the resolution would be withdrawn.



Record trim: Mr Gerry Harley shaving soldiers during his attempt in Gillingham, Kent, yesterday to better his 1981 record of 845 shaves an hour. His new total was 987 in an hour. (Photograph: Suresh Karadia).

Councils to fight civil defence plan

By Nicholas Timmins

The Government yesterday published regulations imposing new obligations on local authorities to plan for civil defence and take part in exercises such as last year's ill-fated Operation Hard Rock.

The regulations were greeted as "one of the biggest deceits ever practised on the people of this country" by Mr William Risby, Chairman of the group of 154, mainly Labour, nuclear-free zones.

The nuclear-free local authorities would put up "the biggest possible resistance within the law", he said. Mr Simon Turney, chairman of the Greater London Council's public services committee, added that the GLC would be "Totally unscrupulous" in using the courts to hamper implementation of the regulations.

It was legal opinion sought by the GLC which in part led to the Government having to redraft the regulations after last year's civil defence exercise was cancelled when more than 20 county councils refused to take part.

The new regulations obliged county councils and the GLC to make plans, train staff, organize volunteers, provide control centres and take part in exercises, and to implement plans when directed to do so. Councils will be expected to assist, and ministers will have powers to direct them to do so.

The number of control centres is to be roughly doubled. Two main changes from the draft regulations are that local authorities will no longer have to plan to evacuate all or part of their populations. They will, however, have to plan to billet the homeless.

Central government grants for training and exercising staff and volunteers, and for communications equipment, are to be raised from 75 per cent to 100 per cent.

Mr Risby said that the nuclear-free authorities had been given an undertaking by Mr Michael Foot, leader of the Opposition, that Labour would oppose the new regulations.

Defence choice

Mr Michael Foot yesterday appointed Mr Pat Duffy, a supporter of multilateral disarmament, to his front bench team of spokesmen on defence. His return to the front bench after two-and-a-half years was causing interest among Labour MPs, especially after the appointment last week of Mr Roland Moyle to replace Mr Denzil Davies, a confirmed *unilateralist, as the number two* defence spokesman to Mr John Silkin. Mr Davis has become Welsh spokesman.

London fares cuts of 25% planned

By John Witherow

London Transport is to reduce fares by an average of 25 per cent from May 22 and introduce a new card that allows travel on both bus and underground trains. This move comes after a decision by the Greater London Council's transport and finance committee on Wednesday to increase the subsidy to London Transport by almost £100m to £235m for the present financial ayear.

Although that subsidy contravenes the new Transport Act, which sets a ceiling for grants to passenger transport, the GLC does not expect legal action similar to that which ended its "Fare's Fair" policy. Bus and Tube fares doubled 14 months ago after the Law Lords ruled in favour of Bromley Borough Council which had objected to ratepayers financing the fare reductions.

The GLC maintains that the present increase follows extensive consultations and a High Court ruling in January which said the council could reduce fares as long as it was done properly. The increased subsidy is likely to be approved by a full council meeting on Tuesday.

London Transport has said although some fares will remain the same, others will be cut by between 10p and £1.90. Some Tube fares will drop from £3.20 to £1.30. The most common fare of 40p on buses and Tubes will stay but it will cover journeys in the whole of the central London area instead of either the City of West End zones, providing a saving for many passengers of 20p or 30p.

One of the main changes is the travel card. That will cost between £2.80 and £480 and gives travel on both bus and Underground for periods between one week and one year in a selection of zones and at prices cheaper than existing season tickets. A monthly season ticket from Wembley to Holborn, for example, will now cost £36 instead of £50, and will enable passengers to use almost all Tube and bus services at any time.

Mr Basil Hooper, London Transport's commercial director, said: "The new fares package 'Just the Ticket' is not the old 'Fares Fair' with a different label. It offers the most dramatic change yet in the way regular passengers pay, and makes fare-paying simpler for everyone else."

Race group plea on searches

By a Staff Reporter

The Commission for Racial Equality has asked the Government to drop search and seizure powers in the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill, now before Parliament, and to provide extra safeguards to go with the new powers to stop and search and hold people for prolonged periods without charge.

The commission has suggested that there should be monitoring of the ethnic origin of those stopped and searched, together with an annual report giving the figures for arrests and convictions.

On the new powers to *detain* people for up to 96 hours without charge, the commission has appealed to Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, to introduce an independent complaints procedure to cover it. Those detained, the commission says, should have immediate access to lawyers.

Mr Peter Newsam, chairman of the commission said that since the Scarman report some progress had been made in relations between the community and the police. "But this may be swept aside unless the black community can be assured that the Bill, if it comes into force, will not lead to abuse of the discretionary powers with which the police are entrusted.

● Mr Roy Hattersley, Opposition spokesman on home affairs, yesterday forecast that the police Bill would be allowed to drop (the Press Association reports). Mr Whitelaw was "going to forget about it, but he is going to do it as privately as he possibly can".

Science report

Carvings twice as old as thought

By the Staff of *Nature*

Two American scientists have devised a technique to date man-made rock carvings by an analysis of the varnish that was commonly used to coat them. The technique has produced evidence to suggest that some North American Indian carvings are almost twice as old as had been thought.

The Californian rock carvings, or petroglyphs, on which Dr Ronald Dorn and Dr David Whitley of the University of California at Los Angeles have demonstrated their new method, consist of motifs a few inches across varnished with a dark coating consisting of clay minerals and metal oxides.

During weathering of that kind of varnish some of the chemical constituents, notably potassium and calcium ions, are washed out more readily than others. Therefore, Dr Dorn and Dr Whitley argue, by measuring the relative concentrations of mobile and immobile ions in a sample, an estimate can be made of how long the varnish has been exposed to weathering.

The concentration of the relevant ions in small samples of the rock varnish scraped from five carvings of different styles in the Great Basin area of California were analysed by particle-induced X-ray emission. From an analysis of the *data, the oldest carving* was dated to at least 6,400 years ago when previous estimates had not exceeded 4,000 years. The most recent carving was estimated to have been made 580 years ago.

Dr Dorn and Dr Whitley were able to confirm a previous hypothesis that the style of carving evolved from curvilinear motifs, through rectilinear motifs to carvings recognizable as images of animals.

Crucial to the accuracy of the technique was its proper calibration, because the rate of washing out of mobile ions from any varnish will depend on a number of factors, particularly climatic conditions. They took care of that problem by calibrating their measurements against rock carvings near by that had been dated by independent means.

Even if proper calibration is not always possible, the technique will still be useful in working out the relative dates of sequences of rock-carvings.

Source: *Nature*, (vol 302, p 816) (April 28, 1983).

Court rejects pleas by jailed men

Three men jailed for their part in clashes in south London which led to the death of Terry May, aged 19, who was disabled, had their application for leave to appeal against sentence dismissed by the Court of Appeal yesterday.

The riot, in Thornton Heath, in June, 1981, came after attacks by National Front skinheads on blacks. Terry May, a passer-by, was pulled from a motorcycle and stabbed.

Ronald Pilgrim, aged 25, of Regina Road, Forest Hill, was jailed at the Central Criminal Court last year for eight years; Gary Huggins, aged 24, of Melfort Road, Thornton Heath, for five years and Patrick Taylor, aged 20, of Cobden Road, South Norwood, for three years.

Pilgrim was convicted of manslaughter, affray and rioting; Huggins of rioting, and Taylor of rioting and affray.

Lord Lane, the Lord Chief Justice, said: "Once you start getting into the realms of vengeance you start vendettas, and once vendettas start there is no telling where they may end".

Poll deposit protest by ecologists

By Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent

The Ecology Party yesterday condemned the increase from £150 to £1,000 in parliamentary election deposits which has been recommended by the Commons Select Committee on Home Affairs. The party, which is the British equivalent of the West German Greens, expects to lose all of its deposits at the next general election.

It has selected candidates for 92 constituencies and expects to fight about one hundred even if the election is held in June. In the general election in 1979 it stood in 53 constituencies and lost all of its deposits with an average share of the vote in those seats of 1.6 per cent.

The party, which has about 4,500 members, is pursuing a lonely parliamentary road among environmental groups, which claim that the changes it seeks can be won only by direct action and protest. The party also fights local elections and has one seat on Cornwall *County Council and a few* places on district and parish councils.

It rejects economic growth as a cure for the ills of society and wants industrial activity to be tied to careful control over the use of resources like oil, timber and land.

● The requirements to stand for election to other parliaments vary:

West Germany: No deposit required. Individual candidates for the Bundestag have to provide the signatures of 200 people from within their own constituency. If candidates gain 10 per cent of the first votes cast or 0.5 per cent of the second votes cast they are repaid the costs of their election campaign at a rate of DM 3.50 (about £1) for each person entitled to vote.

France: Candidates have to provide a deposit of 1,000 francs (about £86) returnable if they poll at least 5 per cent of the votes cast in either the first or second ballot.

United States: No deposit required.

Australia: A $100 (about £55) deposit required, refundable if the candidate is elected or if he gains more than one fifth the number of votes obtained by the winner.

Canada: A $200 (about £104) deposit required.

European Parliament: In accordance with the European Assembly Act, passed by the British Parliament, British candidates have to put up a deposit of £600.

£500 fine for civic fraud man

Norman James, a former chief officer of Wyre Forest District Council, in Worcestershire, who claimed expenses for meals he had with two women councillors with whom he had affairs, was found guilty yesterday of *making a deceitful expenses* claim for one meal.

Mr James, aged 58, who until last year earned £20,000-a-year, was also convicted of obtaining £35 expenses by deception for a hotel stay, and guilty of false accounting.

He was fined £500 and ordered to pay £250 costs at Hereford Crown Court.

James, of Hawthorn Road, Bromsgrove, near Birmingham, was cleared of five charges of making deceitful expenses claims in respect of meals taken with the Worcestershire council's former chairman, Mrs Jean Munslow, who is now his wife, and Mrs Fran Oborski, a Liberal councillor, teacher, aged 37.

James had admitted having a year-long affair with Mrs Oborski, which began on a town-twinning trip to West Germany in the summer of 1980.

Mental hospital patients 'need contraceptives'

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

More sexual freedom in psychiatric and long-stay hospitals for the mentally handicapped has increased the need for full contraception services to be made available to female patients, the public hearing on Depo-Provera was told yesterday.

Most mentally ill or mentally handicapped patients in hospital were perfectly able to make rational decisions about the kind of contraception they wanted to use, expert witnesses told the panel.

Dr Elizabeth McLean, consultant psychiatrist at St George's Hospital, Tooting, south London, and medical administrator at the Springfield psychiatric hospital, also in Tooting, told the panel that most women of child-bearing age who were admitted to mental hospitals were already either on the pill or using IUDs.

Even those who would be regarded as "mad" by the lay public were able to make decisions about their own contraception, which was necessary because there was plenty of opportunity to engage in sexual activity at hospitals like Springfield.

Dr McLean said that sexual activity between patients would be discouraged on wards, but it was entirely their own affair if they planned it outside. Full contraceptive services were needed for patients, not least because an unwanted pregnancy could turn a mild depression into a severe one.

Professor Joan Bicknell, professor of psychiatry of mental handicap at St George's Hospital Medical School, Tooting, said that mildly mentally handicapped people were capable of informed consent over the use of contraceptives, given proper education.

The medical profession had ridden roughshod over the mentally handicapped for too long.

Under questioning, Professor Bicknell agreed that there might be special difficulties with Depo-Provera because it was injected for three months and some mentally handicapped patients found it difficult to plan on a long-term basis.

It might be more appropriate *to use the drug to suppress* menstruation, particularly if that would help families to keep their daughters at home.

Prisoners who study full time in jail should be paid the same as those doing manual work, Commons select committee has recommended in a scathing report on prison education (John Witherow writes).

The all-party committee on education, science and arts also recommends in its report, published yesterday, new legislation to govern teaching in prisons.

"Prison education desperately needs more money, resources and efficiency, but above all strong direction

It describes as "inexcusable" prisoners being locked in their cells for as much as 22 hours a day for weeks on end. "To the then Home Secretary, Winston Churchill, in 1910, treatment of the accused and convicted was one of the unfailing tests of the civilization of any country. "Seventy years later we are failing that test."

Prison education: First report from the education, science and arts committee (Stationery Office, £6.90).

Sale room

Junk box spoon fetches £17,000

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

The highest price ever paid at auction for a spoon, £17,600, was secured at Sotheby's yesterday for a Viennese spoon made of silver metal, with little clusters of malachite, pearl, moonstone and turquoise sprouting from the stem like buds. It had been consigned for sale by a knowing dealer in Art Nouveau who had found the spoon in a box of junk that was included in a minor Phillips auction earlier this year. He paid £180 for the lot.

He had offered the spoon around the trade at £4,000 but found no takers, so he put it into Sotheby's. The purchaser at yesterday's sale was a private collector.

The spoon dates from around 1905 and was made at the Wiener Werkstatte, the most influential avant garde workshop of Europe. It bears the Wiener Werkstatte monogram and trademark, the monogram of the designer, Josef Hoffmann, the monogram of the maker, Anton Pribil and the Austrian poincon.

The Sotheby sale of decorative arts also included an ebonized side table, designed by Philip Webb, at £19,250 (estimate £2,000 to £4,000) selling to Haslam and Whiteway. It is of plain form with legs angled gently outwards with some carved and gilt details. It had descended in the family of *Vernon Lushington, an early* friend of the pre-Raphaelite circle, particularly Morris, Webb, Rossetti and Burne-Jones. The sale totalled £116,342 with five per cent left unsold.

The Art Nouveau Viennese spoon decorated with jewel clusters, which realized the highest price of its type yesterday.

At Christie's, S. J. Phillips, the Bond Street dealers, paid £140,000 (estimate £60,000 to £80,000) for a magnificent Louis XV gold and enamel presentation set decorated with scenes inspired by Boucher and Watteau. It comprises an oval snuff box, a chatelaine with pendant watch, a chatelaine *with a rock-crystal scent-bottle,* bonbonniere and thimble case, a snuffbox with a rock-crystal body, and a sealing wax-case, all dating from around 1760.

The Christie's sale of silver and virtu totalled £240,094 with 3 per cent unsold. Spinks paid £28,080 (estimate £15,000) for a gold freedom box of 1844 celebrating the Treaty of Nanking.

Detectives and informer are acquitted

Two detectives were cleared at Winchester Crown Court yesterday of inciting to burgle and conspiring to pervert the course of justice.

A jury took three-and-a-half hours to acquit Det Constable Stephen Frost and Det Sergeant James Auger after their 13-day trial.

Also appearing in court on the same charges was John Walters, a police informer, who was also acquitted. All three had denied the charges.

In June, 1981, the detectives had arrested a man known as Tinker Billy for the burglary of a country house in Twyford, Berkshire.

Tinker Billy, William Lee, served 18 months before his sentence was reduced on appeal to one day.

Constable Frost, aged 29, of Verney Close, Marlow, Buckinghamshire, and Sergeant Auger, 47, of Mayhew Crescent, High Wycombe, were arrested after an internal police investigation.

It was alleged that they set up Tinker Billy by persuading Walters, aged 31, of Newton Road, Harlow, Essex, to provide him with mask gloves and a crowbar to use during the burglary.

Fourth brother is sent to jail as a killer

A fourth brother in a family from south London became a convicted killer yesterday.

As Daniel O'Driscoll, aged 22, was jailed for 12 years for the "callous and savage" manslaughter of a man who accidentally bumped into him in a street in Brixton, his mother was led screaming from the public gallery of Central Criminal Court.

Judge Gibbens said: "What a family", as he jailed O'Driscoll, of Worcester House, China Walk Estate, Kennington.

Mr Michael Worsley, for the prosecution, had told the court that O'Driscoll had chased his victim, Mr David Feldman, aged 23, a carpenter, into a block of flats at Tierney Road, Brixton. He had pursued him on to a third-floor landing and stabbed him in the heart.

In his defence, O'Driscoll maintained he had stabbed Mr Feldman by accident and had offered to take him to hospital.

Philip Thatcher, aged 23, of Kingscourt Road, Streatham, was convicted of assisting O'Driscoll by driving him from the scene of the crime.

The jury acquitted O'Driscoll of murder, but convicted him of manslaughter on a unanimous verdict.

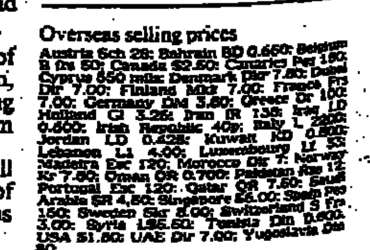
He jailed Thatcher for 18 months.

In July 1981, O'Driscoll's three brothers, Gerald, aged 25, Philip, aged 20, and Christopher, aged 18, were convicted of the "cruel and savage" murder of a man at a wine bar in Streatham.

Gerald and Philip O'Driscoll were jailed for life and Christopher O'Driscoll ordered to be detained at Her Majesty's pleasure.

In that trai, the three were found guilty of murdering Mr Kenneth Burley, aged 40, who was having a "stag" party to celebrate his forthcoming wedding. He was slashed with broken glass

A fifth brother is also serving a prison sentence. Michael O'Driscoll, also in his twenties, was jailed last year for two years for unlawful possession of a shotgun at a club in Streatham.



Overseas selling prices

Austria Sch 28; Bahrain BD 0.650; Belgium B frs 50; Canada $2.50; Canaries Pes 150; Cyprus 550 mils; Denmark Dkr 7.50; Dubai Dir 7.00; Finland Mkk 7.00; France Frs 7.00; Germany DM 3.50; Greece Dr 100; Holland Gl 3.25; Iran IR 135; Iraq ID 0.600; Irish Republic 40p; Italy L 2200; Jordan JD 0.425; Kuwait KD 0.500; Lebanon LL 4.00; Luxembourg Lf 55; Madeira Esc 120; Morocco Dir 7; Norway Kr 7.50; Oman OR 0.700; Pakistan Rs 12; Portugal Esc 120; Qatar QR 7.50; Saudi Arabia SR 4.50; Singapore $6.00; Spain Pts 150; Sweden Skr 8.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Syria L95.60; Tunisia Din 0.600; USA $1.50; UAE Dir 7.00; Yugoslavia Din 80.

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CND to appoint worker who will canvass poll candidates' attitudes

By Nicholas Timmins

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament is to appoint a full-time worker for the general election campaign. The job will include maintaining a register of the views of all MPs and candidates on nuclear weapons and disarmament issues.

When the campaign starts, CND will use the register to publicize the views of all candidtes in the constituencies, concentrating particularly on marginal seats, to let voters know where individual candidates stand.

Mgr Bruce Kent, general secretary of CND, said yesterday: "There is no question that CND is a political movement since it seeks social change: but it is not a party political movement.

"We will make known the views of candidates and urge people to vote for the candidate whom, in their opinion, will work most effectively to end the arms race. It will be for the voters to decide".

CND's policy is that it will not endorse any individual party or candidate although Mrs Joan Ruddock, CND's chairwoman has said that the campaign has to create a position where people who support CND's aims cannot vote Conservative, unless the individual Conservative candidate disagrees with his party's policies on nuclear weapons.

The post of election worker will last for one year, at CND's standard salary of £7,200, taking the campaign's full-time staff to 29. The job's other responsibilities will include liaising with and briefing MPs, organizing lobbies of Parliament, assisting local groups during the election and liaising with CND's specialist political party sections which include Labour, SDP, Liberal and "Green CND".

Mgr Kent was still declining yesterday to dicuss Cardinal Hume's statement on his position in CND. But it is understood that after careful thought he intends to continue in his post, with the cardinal's permission.

● Up to 200 people from the British peace movement, trade unions and the Labour Party are expected to attend the second European nuclear disarmament convention in Berlin next month.

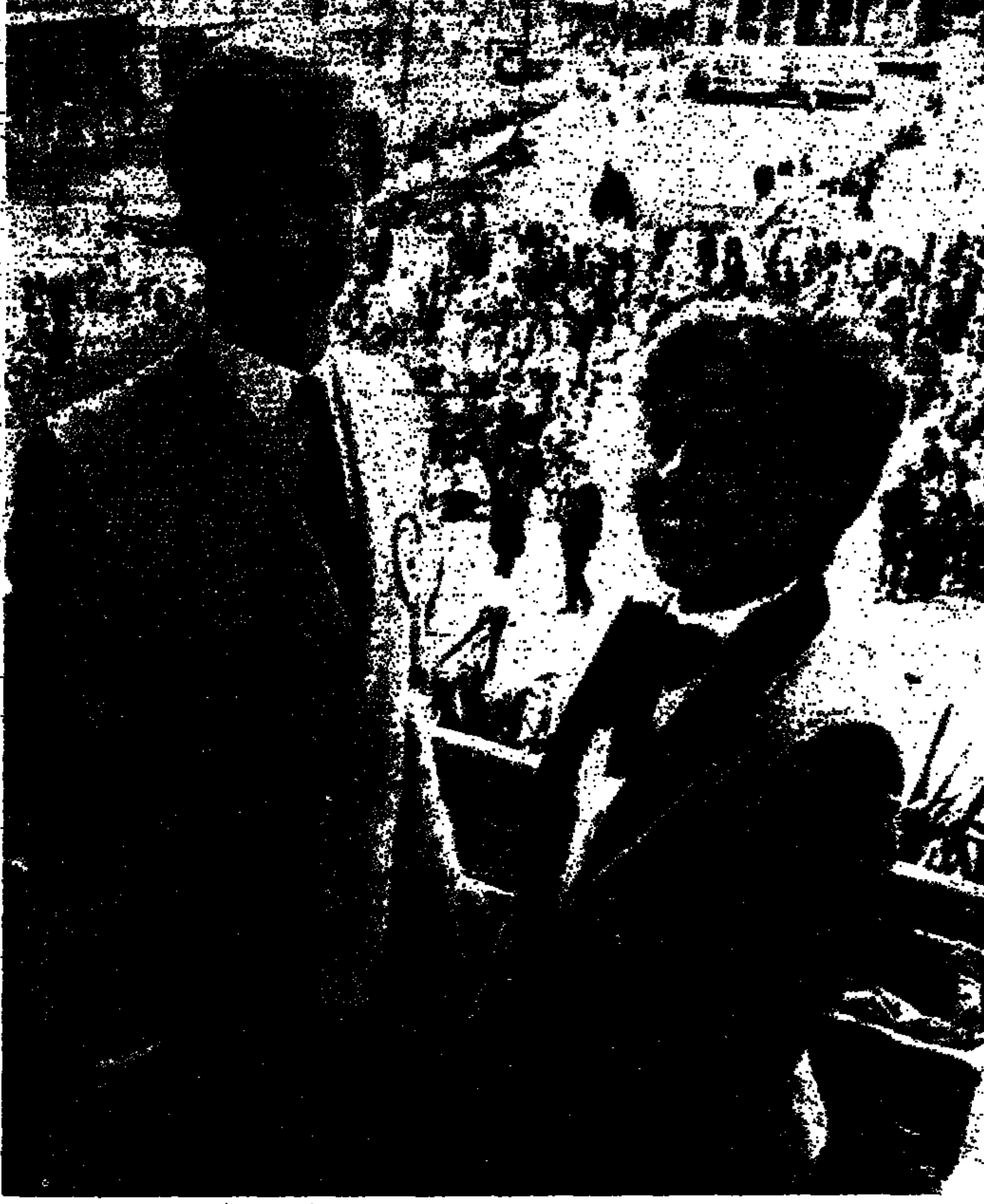
The convention between May 9 and 14, is expected to attract more than 2,000 representatives of western European peace movments and some representatives of eastern European movements.

Mgr Kent, representatives of the Greenham Common peace camp and a delegation of seven from the Transport and General Workers' Union are expected to attend, as will Mr Mostyn Evans, general secretary of the TGWU and Mr Wedgwood Benn.

Mr Benn said that recent events had confirmed the power of the peace movement in Britain. There had been the attempt to punish the Citizens' Advice Bureau because Mrs Ruddock worked for them; Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, had tried to imply that CND was Soviet-dominated and there had been the pressure applied over Mgr Kent's position with CND.

Women from Greenham Common and the women's peace movement yesterday announced their plans for an international women's day of action on May 24. They are hoping that trade unionists and others will take the day off to take part in dozens of small-scale demonstrations.

Ian Gilmour, page 12
Letters, page 13



Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean, the world ice dance champion skaters, who were made honorary freemen of the city of Nottingham yesterday. Earlier this year, they won the world ice dance championship for the third successive time. They hope this year to win a gold medal at the winter Olympics.

7,000 more teaching jobs may disappear but colleges expand

By Sarah Baylis, *Times Educational Supplement*

More than 5,500 teachers' jobs disappeared from the payrolls of three-quarters of local councils in the last financial year. A further 5,000 look set to be cut from the same areas in the next 12 months, according to a survey of 76 local education authorities conducted by *The Times Educational Supplement*.

On the basis of the ample, the jobs of 7,000 teachers throughout England and Wales could disappear in 1983-84.

In contrast to the schools, where pupil numbers are falling, colleges of further education expect to employ 1,000 new lecturers in the next 12 months to teach the swelling ranks of 16 to 19 year olds. About 500 extra college posts were found to have been created last year.

There were no compulsory redundancies last year and chief education officers do not expect to dispute anyone because spending cuts or falling pupli numbers over the next year.

Some of the jobs in schools disappeared through redeployment, but most went through premature retirement; last year 6,350 older teachers left the profession early with enhanced pension rights. Given the net reduction of 5,500 jobs in 1982-83, some vacancies were clearly filled through the promotion of younger teachers.

For individual teachers who face an uncertain future and for parents who see schools closing and specialist staff disappearing, the reductions may seem harsh. But they are still not high enough in terms of plans set out by the Department of Education in the White Paper *The Government's Expenditure Plans 1983-4 to 1985-6;* (Cmnd 8789-II).

The White Paper envisaged a cut of 11,000 for 1983-84; given the corresponding drop in pupil numbers, it said that that could mean a very slight improvement in pupil-teacher ratios.

The survey found that half the education authorities in England and Wales plan to spend slightly more on education in the next 12 months than in 1982-83. Four out of 10 plan to spend less and one in ten plans to spend the same amount. The changes range from a 6.6 per cent increase in Dudley to a 2.9 per cent decrease in Stockport.

Two-thirds of the authorities in the sample will be "overspent" in 1983-84 because their total spending on all services is in breach of government targets. They will be penalized by losing rate support grant. The picture would be much bleaker if interest rates and inflation had not fallen over the past year.

Most authorities are spending at least five per cent more on books and equipment. A third of the authorities are increasing education for children with special needs.

Traffic warden wins claim

From Our Correspondent
Nottingham

Mr John Hancock, a traffic warden who was dismissed for being rude to motorists, won his claim for unfair dismissal yesterday. He is expected to receive £800 compensation.

Miss Norah Healey, chairman of the Nottingham industrial tribunal, said the panel thought Mr Hancock was 80 per cent to blame for his dismissal, but she added that the panel was concerned that Mr Tony Tyler deputy chief constable of Nottinghamshire, had treated the case as gross misconduct.

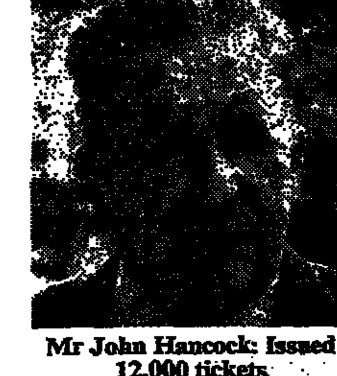
Mr Hancock, aged 56, a traffic warden for 15 years, said afterwards: "Some firms sack employees for not working, but I have been sacked for working. I enjoyed serving the public."

He estimated he had issued 12,000 parking tickets and reported another 5,000 offences. "After this case I don't think any traffic warden will want to do a lot of work."

Mr Hancock, of Selwyn Close, West Bridgford, Nottingham, who was dismissed in August, 1981, after repeated complaints from the public, will not be reappointed.

At an earlier hearing, Superintendent Charles Causley, his former superior, said: "He could detect offences better than any policeman we had, but he just didn't know how to be nice to people.

"He had an insatiable appetite for reporting offences. He would stand at a strategic point, usually at Trent Bridge, Nottingham, for two hours and fill his book with traffic offences."



Mr John Hancock: Issued 12,000 tickets

Man made wife pay him to decorate

Mr William Broadhurst was so mean that he charged his wife £5 for redecorating the living-room ceiling. The only time he gave her a lift to work in his car, she paid for the petrol. He collected 50p a week from his family to pay for the electricity used by the television, a divorce judge said in London yesterday.

Mr Justice Eastham granted Mrs Thelma Broadhurst, aged 56, a decree *nisi* against her "very selfish and insensitive" husband on the ground that their marriage had irretrievably broken down because of his unreasonable behaviour.

The judge, in the Family Division, said Mr Broadhurst, aged 65, made his family pay toeards the cost of installing a shower, even though their house in Brewery Road, Plumstead, south-east London, did not have a bath.

When one of his two married daughters visisted her old home, she was charged 5p for having a shower.

"This matter illustrates with perfect clarity the meanness of this man," the judge said.

Mr Broadhurst opposed his wife's divorce petition, because if she succeeded, she would have a claim on the house, the judge said. If he had won, he would be entitled to stay in the house, without any claim against it.

He admitted that the marriage had irretrievably broken down, but denied it was caused by his behaviour. The judge said Mr Broadhurst, a retired bricklayer, was interested only in cars and playing golf and bowls.

Mr Broadhurst agreed there was a "mutual dislike for each other," but claimed he was a "hen-pecked worm in the house."

Sexual contact between the couple stopped at the end of 1974. Mrs Broadhurst was the "warmer of the two" and try to persuade her husband to have sexual intercoarse. But he used to say he was too tired, the judge said.

Outside the court, Mrs Broadhurst, who now lives with a relative, said: "Iam pleased I have got a divorce at last." Mr Broadhurst refused to comment on the meanness allegations.

Incompetent solicitors 'should refund fees'

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Incompetent solicitors guilty of "serious dereliction of duty" to a client should be ordered to refund all or part of their fees, the Lay Observer recommends in his annual report published yesterday.

The Lay Observer, Major John Allen, who acts as a watchdog of the way the Law Society handles the public's complaints, says at present there is no remedy for bad professional work by solicitors except that which is offered voluntarily.

In such cases, which stop short of actionable negligence, the Law Society should be given power to order a refund by a solicitor. At present its powers are limited to issues of professional conduct.

Most solicitors did correct mistakes at their own expense. "Nevertheless, I believe the society should have the power to order this in the very small proportion of cases where their solicitor fails to meet his proper obligations in this respect."

He notes that the Law Society is revising its *Guide to the Professional Conduct of Solicitors* and says further judjment will be suspended until new measures relating to incompetence are announced.

Delays and lack of information are still a "frequent and well-justified cause of complaint" from the public against solicitors, he says. "I have been dismayed at the overall time taken to bring some matters to a conclusion."

Eighth annual report of the Lay Observer: (Stationery Office; £2.25.)

Solvent clue to deaths of two boys

From Craig Seton
Weston-Super-Mare

Two boys aged 15 who were found dead in a garden shed yesterday may have been sniffing solvents.

Michael Munns, described as a good samaritan by neighbours, and Ian Kitts, his friend, were found slumped in the shed at the back of the Munnses' home in Cleveland Road, Weston-Super-Mare, Avon, by two other schoolboys.

The police were called but several attempts to revive the boys were unsuccessful. Clothing and blankets were taken away for examination and the police would not comment on the cause of death until post-mortem examinations had been carried out.

Mr Dennis Kitts, father of Ian Kitts, said yesterday: "We are being told that the police have taken away samples of solvent. From that point of view to say it is solvent abuse is speculation and we are waiting for the pathologist's report".

A neighbour of Michael Munns said: "We cannot believe it. He was such a cheerful, bright lad, and was always willing to help."

He had been helping his father, who works for a building firm, to extend their home.

Children and staff at Wyvern School in Western-Super-Mare, which both boys attended, were stunned by their death. Mr Geoffrey Crump, director of education for Avon, said yesterday: "This is a desperate tragedy and the authority has enormous sympathy with the family.

"The incident took place outside school time and is in the hands of the police."

Banker to chair Nature Conservancy Council

By Our Environment Correspondent

A London banker who runs a Welsh sheep farm as a nature reserve is to be the next chairman of the Nature Conservancy Council. He is William Wilkinson, aged 50, brother of Mr John Wilkinson, Conservative MP for Hillingdon, Ruislip-Northwood.

The new chairman, who will take over next Tuesday, described himself yesterday as a "floating voter" who had never belonged to a political party. "I have always been interested in wildlife, the countryside and their conservation", he said.

He will succeed Sir Ralph Verney, aged 68, a former president of the County Landowners Association, who is about to end a three-year term as chairman. Mr Wilkinson will serve for four years.

Ministers reject the claim of naturalists that Sir Ralph has been dismissed because of his robust defence of Somerset bird refuges against pressure from farmers and Conservative MP's.

Mr Wilkinson's wide interests bridge the two competing lobbies of farmers and naturalists which make opposing demands on the council, a quango which adminsters wildlife law.

Prison potter convicted of Leach conspiracy

A jury at Southwark Crown Court, London, yesterday found Vincent Mason guilty of conspiring with two other men to obtain money by deception from leading auction houses by making fake Bernard Leach pottery in a prison workshop. He was sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment, suspended for two years.

Although he was a beginner Mason, serving a five-year sentence for burglary and handling stolen property, used the library at Featherstone prison, near Wolverhampton, to make a detailed study of the Cornish master potter.

The copies he produced in the prison kiln fooled experts at Sotheby's, Christie's, Bonham's and other auction houses.

The jury was told that William Boardman, a fellow prisoner, saw Mason's work at pottery classes and hit on the idea of passing them to John Excell, an antique dealer, who then got in touch with the auction houses.

Mason's work appeared in various catalogues and even fooled Mr Richard Dennis, who had collected and dealt in Leach's works for many years.

Mason, aged 47, of Fawcett Street, Salford, Greater Manchester, insisted he did not know what Boardman and Excell were doing with his pots. He denied trying to fool "the foremost experts on Leach" and "such presumption would have been monumental".

Excell was given an 18-month sentence suspended for two years and Boardman was given 18 months concurrent with a three-year sentence he was already serving.

Meeting the costs of Channel 4

Television's newcomer is winning friends

By Kenneth Gosling

Channel 4, six months old next week and now well established in the ratings after a shaky start, is still enjoying the confidence of the independent television companies in spite of the strain it places on their finances.

The 15 companies are bearing the brunt of the channel's costs without getting back anything like the total £138m outlay in advertising revenue, mainly due to the dispute over advertising fees for actors.

Thames Television, for example, would have made a profit before its levy payment of between £20m to £30m this year, but that potential profit has become a predicted loss of between £2m and £3m. Thames pays the highest Channel 4 subscription of £21.6m.

Company executives were unwilling yesterday to reopen old arguments about whether Channel 4 should have been controlled by the independent television companies rather than becoming a subsidiary of the Independent Broadcasting Authority (IBA).

Mr Hugh Dundas, chairman of Thames Television, said: "There is no point in saying what might have happened. We in the 15 companies and the Independent Television News had all the facilities and expertise. But we went into the current franchise knowing what was to happen and that is now water under the bridge. Our ambition is to see it work."

Yorkshire Television, sixth in the subscription list on £13.6m, was losing £1m a month earlier this year in terms of the discrepancy between what it has to pay for Channel 4 and the revenue it draws from advertising.

Now that figure has been reduced to £750,000, partly, Yorkshire says, because Channel 4 revenue has increased, but also because the IBA has deferred the collection of some of the interest on the amount the companies owe on the first year's subscriptions to the channel.

Mr Paul Fox, managing director and director of programmes at Yorkshire, who is a senior figure in the industry, discounted reports that the companies wanted either to see Channel 4 go out of business or to stage a takeover.

He said: "We support it wholeheartedly and continue to wish it well. Obviously life would be much easier without the advertising dispute, and God knows when the end of that will come, but the company is performing well and its closure has never been discussed."

Frustration over the Equity/Institute of Practitioners in Advertising dispute is expressed by Granada, one of the "big five" companies in the regions. Mr Peter Rennie, sales director, said much more revenue would have been generated had it not been for the dispute.

Mr Timothy Knowles, assistant managing director and finance director of HTV, was emphatic that even with an immediate resolution of the dispute, there would be no significant increase in the overall income from advertising "because the money we have lost on Channel 4 and S4C has simply been moved into ITV 1".

Last month the companies had the consolation of seeing their general revenue from advertising increase to £73m, £15.5m more than in February and nearly £20m more than in April last year.

That lends support to the view of Mr John Birt, director of programmes, London Weekend Television, that the people in Independent Television are confident that the present difficulties will have evaporated in a couple of years. But he added that companies such as LWT are going to have to rethink fundamentals in a system that has not had to do it for quite some time".

As for Channel 4, to be successful it needs, on average, for everyone who watches television to tune into it for two hours a week.

Future secure, TV-am says

After weeks of uncertainty, low ratings for its programmes and the disappearance of several "famous name" presenters, TV-am yesterday announced that its financial future is secure.

In a brief statement after a board meeting, it said that agreement had been reached between the company's shareholders and its bankers.

The company, which holds the commercial breakfast television franchise, has come to an agreement with its unions on cuts amounting to £1.5m a year towards checking a reported loss of £600,000 a month.

It is clear from the statement that Mr Timothy Aitken, chief executive of TV-am, has succeeded in his attempt to restore a £3m overdraft facility with Barclays merchant bank in return for certain guarantees.

The reprieve will enable Mr Greg Dyke, the new editor-in-chief who starts work on Monday, to produce a package better able to compete with the BBC *Breakfast Time* programme, which has been achieving ratings of 1.5 million against TV-am's 300,000.

PARLIAMENT April 28 1983

PM asserts: 'We are the true peace movement'

NUCLEAR DEBATE

The Conservatives were the true peace movement, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, declared in the Commons during questions about Labour's defence policy and about the politics of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament.

Mrs Thatcher denied that Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, had spoken to Cardinal Hume or any other church or religious leaders about the CND. She hoped that there would be an early Commons debate on defence matters and also promised that the Conservatives would keep defence at the forefront of the election debate.

Mr David Trippier (Rossendale, C) asked her: Has she studied the essay written by Mr Denis Healey, Deputy Leader of the Labour Party and spokesman of foreign and Commonwealth affairs in the book called *Renewal: Labour's Britain in the 1980s?*

Does she not find it strange in that essay on foreign affairs that Mr Healey never referred once to Labour policy on withdrawal from the Common Market and the removal of nuclear weapons and bases?

It would be far better if Mr Healey came clean and renounced those policies, which he knows would be a disaster for this country.

Mrs Thatcher: I agree that it would be a disaster to withdraw from Europe or to abandon our nuclear weapons. The one would have a devastating effect on industry and the other would show that we were not prepared to defend ourselves.

I have not read the essays but I do not share Mr Trippier's surprise. Mr Healey always seems able to model his views to Labour policy, whatever that may be.

Mr Robert Adley (Christchurch and Lymington, C): In two recent evening's canvassing with an excellent Conservative candidate in the Grange ward of Christchurch which had the largest council housing estate in my constituency, I have come across a number of erstwhile Labour voters who have expressed their grave concern and disillusion with Labour support of CND.

Will she therefore do everything to encourage Conrade Kent and his socialist cohorts to keep defence at the forefront of debate?

Mrs Thatcher: We shall keep defence at the forefront. They are vital for the security of our way of life and the people of this country, and for our international standing.

I hope that soon there will be a full debate in the House

Mr Tom Clarke (Coatbridge and Airdrie, Lab): There is a widespread concern in Scotland about recent remarks by Mr Michael Heseltine, the Secretary of State for Defence. Distinguished representatives of the Church of Scotland, the Episcopalean Church and Roman Catholic Church take grave exception to the smear of the peace movement.

Mrs Thatcher: Mr Heseltine has had no conversations with Cardinal Hume. (Protests) Just because the Labour Party does not like the facts, it does not make them any the less facts. Mr Heseltine has had no conversations with Cardinal Hume or with the head of any other church or religious organization.

About his other revelations about the leaders of the CND, I fail to see that anyone can be blamed for revealing the facts.

Mr Robin Maxwell-Hyslop (Tiverton, C): The best credentials for



Maxwell-Hyslop: Policies have kept the peace

leading the peace movement are to have been responsible for carrying out policies which have preserved peace.

By those credentials, she and the five preceding prime ministers, who have kept Britain in Nato and kept nuclear weapons defending us, have demonstrated that they lead the true movement for preserving peace between East and West. (Labour protests and Conservative cheers).

Mrs Thatcher: Nuclear weapons are a part of the Nato balance. That has kept the peace for 38 years and people should be very slow to discard it before they can find something to keep the peace equally well.

We are the true peace movement. (Labour laughter and Conservative cheers).

Mr Mark Carlisle (Runcorn, C): Has she seen reports in today's papers that, apparently, in the Labour Party advertising campaign, Labour does not propose to refer to its intention to go for unilateral nuclear disarmament? Mr Foot, the Leader of the Opposition says that is the main issue at the next election, but apparently does not wish to put it publicly before the electorate.

Mrs Thatcher: I have seen the reports but Labour's true voice has been revealed in documents and sayings of many people. They are unilateralists and that means they would be prepared to play with the defence of Great Britain, and to abandon the policies in which lie our true security.

Too many involved for visits to graves

WAR WIDOWS

There were just too many people involved to make it a feasible proposition for all war widows to visit their husbands' graves overseas at public expense, Lord Glenarthur, a Government spokesman, told the House of Lords at question time.

The Government was accused by Lady Jeger (Lab) of being "totally insensitive" to the feelings of many families of men killed in wars other than the Falklands campaign.

When she asked the Government to reconsider the possibility of assistance for such visits, Lord Glenarthur informed her: We have no plans to reconsider offering visits at public expense to servicemen's graves overseas to the next of kin of such servicemen buried before the current arrangements were introduced in 1967.

Lady Jeger: Is the Government totally insensitive to the feelings of many families who have lost their next of kin in other wars? The arrangements introduced in 1967 were not retrospective but there is now a new situation with the Falklands arrangements.

Will the Government look again at this with some sensitivity and sympathy to people who feel equally bereaved whatever their loved ones were killed and whatever date it happened?

Lord Glenarthur: All will share her feelings of sympathy with those who have died in all wars. The sacrifices of those in the last war were as great as those who died in the Falklands. I know this is keenly felt by many.

Of course the Government would like to be able to offer a visit at public expense to the close relatives of servicemen buried overseas. But the simple fact that it is a matter of scale and practicality. There are just too many people involved to make it a feasible proposition.

Lord Cledwyn of Penrhos, leader of the Opposition peers, asked what was the scale and cost involved. What were the numbers involved, bearing in mind that it was only a percentage of the total number of widows who would be able to go. The number of widows from the First World War must be small by now.

Would the minister (he added) convey the feeling of the House to the Secretary of State for Defence (Mr Michael Heseltine)? The Government should introduce a phased scheme, based possibly on age, to enable the widows who want to go to visit the graves of their late husbands.

Lord Glenarthur said there were about 172,000 identified graves of British servicemen buried overseas from World War Two alone. It would be a reasonable assumption

Jeger: Government insensitive to families

that the majority would have at least one surviving close relative who might wish to take up the offer of a visit. It was calculated there were just over 65,000 war widows' pensions in payment.

Phasing visits would not significantly ease the difficulties unless everyone concerned was offered a visit within a reasonable time scale. There would inevitably be charges of injustice.

There is no way (he said) of overcoming the problem because of the sheer scale. Stretching it over a period of years would not do so.

He told the **Earl of Onslow** (C): We do not have an estimate of the cost. It would be a very large sum indeed.

State cash for research project

TECHNOLOGY

Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Industry, outlined in a Commons statement a joint researc programme into information technology (IT) which is expected to cost up to £350m. The programme is to involve industry, research institutions and the Government.

It would, he said, be the first time there had been a colloborative research project on this scale.

The statement was made in response to the report of the Alvey Committee.

Mr Jenkin said: The Alvey Committee was set up last year at the request of the IT industry to investigate the scope for a collaborative research programme in advanced information technology in the light of mounting concern in the industry at the increasing threat of overseas competition.

After detailed consultations with industry I am now able to announce the Government's response.

The future competitiveness of our IT industry is a subject to which we attach the utmost importance. The report outlines the key enabling technologies in which the IT industry must maintain and strengthen its competitive position in world markets.

Its theme is the need for collaboration between industry, academic institutions and other research organizations in order fully to mobilize our potential in these technologies. The task is beyond the resources of any single enterprise.

The central purpose is to pave the way for IT products, IT processes and IT services which can be sold in the market in competition with the rest of the world.

We therefore accept Alvey's recommendation to establish a programme of collaborative research concentrated on the four main areas of technology set out in the report. These areas are software engineering, very large scale integration that is, advanced chips, man machine interfaces, and intelligent knowledge based systems.

Industry has realized the need for collaborative research in these areas, and it is ready to take part in such a programme. This positive involvement of industry in the funding, management and execution of the programme is crucial to its success, if we are to turn successful research into marketable products.

The key feature of the programme will be collaboration between companies, Government research establishments, and academic institutions. Work carried out in acamemic institutions will as usual be funded 100 per cent by government.

In the case of work carried out in industry, Alvey recommended that most of this should be 50 per cent government funded, but that some projects should attract 90 per cent funding. We have considered this last recommendation closely, but have decided that 90 per cent government funding does not secure a sufficient industrial commitment and could lead to the programme becoming divorced from industry's needs. I have, therefore, decided that all industrial work should be 50 per cent government funded.

Companies taking part will be required to release know-how and to share results with their project partners. They will also be expected to license results on reasonable conditions to others in the programme, and to organisations *outside the programme* where this is needed to secure exploitation.

The report estimated that the research would cost about £350m over five years. The Government stands ready to support a programme of research on this scale. However, the extent of the Government's contribution to the programme depends upon industry making its contribution and upon the programme's technical progress.

The report proposed that academic institutions should carry out some £50m of research over five years, and industry the remaining £300m. The full cost of this to Government would be around £200m.

This money will be provided by the Department of Industry, the Department of Education and Science and the Ministry of Defence and, over the PES period, will not add to existing allocations.

The Department of Education and Science will fund research through the Science and Engineering Research Council, mainly in the universities. The Ministry of Defence will fund research of particular importance to our future defence industry. The Department *of Industry will* provide the major portion of the Government's funds and will carry overall responsibility for the management of the programme.

A new, small, directorate will be established in the Department of Industry to coordinate the programme. It will be headed by Mr Brian Oakley, currently Secretary of the Science and Engineering Research Council. It will be staffed by people from the industry and supported by the Government departments concerned and the SERC.

The directorate will report to a small supervising board of industrialists. Sir Robert Telford, who has substantial experience of the electronics industry, has agreed to serve on a part-time basis as chairman of the Board.

This is the first time in our history that we shall be embarking on a collaborative research project on anything like this scale. Industry, academic researchers and Government will be coming together to achieve major advances in technology which none could achieve on their own.

The involvement of industry will ensure that the results as they emerge are fully exploited here in Britain to the advantage of our economy. Information technology is one of the most important industries of the future and therefore one upon which hundreds of thousands of jobs in the future will depend.

Collaboration will ensure that the results of the research are widely disseminated particularly to smaller firms which have such an important contribution to make to the industry.

No one can guarantee success, but the Government is convinced that this programme will ensure for British industry secure access to the new technology and to the products and processes on which the new technology and to the products and processes on which our future prosperity depends.



Jenkin: £350m project over five years

Mr John Garrett, an Opposition spokesman on industry (Norwich, South, Lab): In general we welcome this statement.

The refusal to meet Alvey's proposal for a 90 per cent funding by the Government on some projects means that many small companies will not able to join the programme, yet much innovation comes from these companies.

Alvey proposed the 90 per cent funding specifically to assist dissemination of key technologies. Will the spread of new systems be hindered by the penny-pinching restriction of funding to 50 per cent?

What are the implications for the education system? Alvey siad it was no good just providing schools with micro-computers when what was needed was a massive expansion of teacher training, including 500 new trained personnel, 150 new academic posts and 800 new undergraduate places.

What is the Government's policy on the multinationals? Alvey said they should participate in the programme only where it is guaranteed that valuable technical information will not leak abroad.

Mr Jenkin: On the decision not to accept the Alvey 90 per cent figure where small companies would be interested, this is in no sense penny-pinching. This is not to save expenditure – the Government's commitment will be approaching 60 per cent of the total amount involved.

We want to make sure that the Government's involvement in this research would have sufficient direct interest to make sure that it remained always relevant to the market.

The programme provides for the training in the necessary skills. It is designed to go hand in hand with the Secretary of State for Education and Science's information technology "New Blood" initiative which has already been announced.

On multinationals, all companies taking part in the programme will be required to meet the same general conditions: they must have the research expertise to contribute, they must be ready to accept the rules under the intellectual properties rights, and they must exploit the technology arising from the programme in the United Kingdom.

We will require clear and categorical assurances that the work done here does not leak overseas to benefit Britain's competitors. This whole programme will be an enormous advantage to Britain's IT industry.

Mr John Grant (Islington, Central, SDP): The statement shows a surprising degree of complacency. By short changing industry in this way does he think he will enable it to compete adequately with the hugely government backed industries of Japan and West Germany?

Mr Jenkin: I do not see how he can describe as short changing industry the programme I have announced

Labour loves spending other people's money

RATING SYSTEM

Labour-controlled local authorities were very big spenders of other people's money, Mrs Thatcher the Prime Minister said during noisy exchanges with **Mr Michael Foot,** Leader of the Opposition, over the level of rates.

She denied that the Conservative Party had made a promise to abolish the rating laws and condemned the 18 largest overspenders among local authorities, which were all Labour-controlled.

Mr Alan Beith Berwick upon Tweed, L): had asked if she was going to promise to abolish the rating system as she did previously? Would it be on the basis of the plan she had in mind then, or was she going to promise merely to reform the system?

Mrs Thatcher: There was no promise to abolish the rating system. (Opposition interruptions) It was clear that their reduction of income tax would have to come first. He will have to wait and see exactly what we say about rates when the due time comes.

Mr Sydney Chapman (Barnet, Chipping Barnet, C), will she look at recently-published statistics which show that the average rate poundage of Labour-controlled London boroughs are no less than 50 per cent higher than Conservative-controlled boroughs. The equivalent figure in the Metropolitan councils is 25 per cent, as it is in the shires.

The best advice to people is to vote Conservative to get their rates down. (Conservative cheers.)

Mrs Thatcher: Many Labour-controlled authorities are vey big spenders of other people's money. This year the 18 largest over-spenders are all Labour-controlled authorities. It is the duty of councils to be careful how they spend ratepayers' money and show they give value for it

Mr Foot: If she is now showing a renewed interest in the rating system, how much have rates increased under her Government?

Mrs Thatcher: Too much, especially in Labour-controlled authorities.

Mr Foot: Rates have increased in general over the country under her Government by 75 per cent. How much could they have been reduced if she had not cut the rate support grant? (Labour cheers)

Mrs Thatcher: Rates are highest in Labour-controlled areas. The 18 largest over-spenders are the Greater London Council, the Inner London Education Authority, the West Midlands, Greater Manchester, Avon, Merseyside, Southwark, Sheffield, Greenwich, Tyne and Wear . . . (the rest of the names were lost amid loud Conservative cheers and Labour interruptions).

Labour loves spending other people's money.

Mr Foot: How much have rates increased in Surrey, controlled by the Conservatives?

Mrs Thatcher: They are much too high in Surrey. (Labour laughter).

One of the ways of trying to get public expenditure in the local authorities reduced was the new system for the rate support grant. On average this year rates increased by 6.5 per cent. Had the two biggest spenders – the GLC and ILEA – been on their targets, there would have been on average virtually no rate increases this year.

War hero's widow being helped

SALE OF VC

The Government had an excellent record on war widows, and the excellence of that record would continue in future. Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said during Commons questions about the sale by Mrs Muriel Nicolson of her late husband's Victoria Cross.

Wing Commander James Nicolson, who died in a plane crash in 1945, had won the VC during the Battle of Britain as a fighter pilot – the only one to win a VC in that battle. The Nilcolson family had put the medal up for public sale deliberately to draw attention to what they felt to be the Government's innatention to Second World War widows.

The matter was raised by Mr Jack Ashley (Stoke-on-Trent, South, Lab) who said that one of the saddest sights of the past few days had been the sale of a Victoria Cross.

Will the Prime Minister consider initiating a wide-ranging review of the problems of these widows (he asked) so that they can be given the same kind of consideration, kindness and compassion properly shown to the widows of the Falklands campaign? **Mrs Thatcher:** This Government's record in improving the lot of war widows has been unsurpassed by any other government, including the Labour Government.

The increases we have given include a special one for old age and the fact that we have taken war widows completely out of taxation.

On that particular case, it is very sad that the VC has been sold.

We have looked into the case and Mrs Nicolson was visited. She was awarded a war widow's pension after the death of her husband. In the post-war period, the rate was increased for her son and his school fees were met under the war *pensions scheme.*

In addition to the standard pension she has received some help from the RAF Benevolent Fund. She has rank allowance and an age allowance. We were not aware that she needed further money.

We have an excellent record on war widows and I imagine that the excellence of that record will continue in future.

Projections for growth unchanged

THE ECONOMY

There was encouraging confirmation that the economy was recovering, but this had not led the Government to revise its projec*tions for growth in* the coming year, **Mr Leon Brittan,** Chief Secretary to the Treasury, said in the Commons when asked if he would revise upwards his estimates for economic growth.

Over recent weeks, he added, a number of encouraging indicators had been published pointing to modest economic recovery. These included evidence that manufacturing production was increasing – up 1 per cent in the three months to February on the previous three months; the continuing growth in total output, now 2 per cent higher than in the spring of 1981; and a substantial improvement in business confidence.

When an apology was conveyed from Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, for his absence as he was at a meeting in Washington of the Development Committee of the World Bank, Mr Enoch Powell (South Down, Off UU) said the Chancellor would be better occupied answering questions in the House than being in Washington fixing up loans to sustain unsustainable regimes and unsound economies.

Mr Mark Lennox-Boyd (Morecambe and Lonsdale, C): The evidence of the recent CBI survey and other favourable indicators are perhaps the reason for the Opposition's desperate concern to see a June election. They fear the situation will be even worse for them in the autumn.

Mr Brittan: That anxiety is well placed, because the CBI's latest industrial trends survey does show encouraging improvements in business optimism, which is at its highest level since 1976. That is reflected not just in optimism but in improved order books.

There are numerous other indicators in the real world to show that and it is only a few of the more benighted Labour MPs who do not accept what is going on.

Mr Richard Wainwright (Colne Valley, L): What is the Government's message to those British manufacturers whose plans to contribute to greater growth in the economy depend upon a realistic international valuation of the pound sterling?

Mr Brittan: It is not the job of Government to give messages of this kind. The job of the Government is to provide the right financial framework and the right balance of measures to encourage industry.

That is what has been done in the Budget in relation to business, particulary small businesses, and it is the best possible encouragement that can be given to industry.

Mr Peter Shore, chief Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs, (Tower Hamlets, Stepney and Popular, Lab): Mr Brittan's reply was well judged in his refusal to increase his estimate of the rate of growth of GDP in the economy of 2 per cent for this year and 2½ per cent for the second half of this year over the second half of 1982.

Can he explain, having I assume read the recent quarterly report of the CBI in which it is shown that 72 per cent of our firms are operating below capacity and only 4 per cent believe they are short of orders, why there is so much apparent optimism on the economy in the Government's statements at the present time? What is the real basis for this?

Mr Brittan: His question is as good an example of scraping the barrel as we shall see. He does not now seem to be challenging the fact that the economy is growing, but only welcoming the fact that we are not able to announce a faster rate of growth than we announced at the time of the Budget.

As for accounting for optimism, it is not difficult to understand why when British industry is showing increasing order books and increasing expectations.

I regard that as a good sign. The whole country does. The only person who regards it as a bad sign is Mr Shore.

He said later that at the Williamsburg summit the Chancellor would be engaged in discussions designed to ensure that, where possible, the countries of western Europe adopted policies on inflation and budget deficits which would enable the kind of progress not only in this country but in the United States and Germany to continue and not to be abortive.

Mr Joel Barnett (Heywood and Royton, Lab): How does he expect to sustain even the present modest recovery, without an increase in inflation?

Mr Brittan: I do not believe that the policy we have been following of restraint in monetary growth, which has led to a fall in inflation, will be reversed. The increase in activity which I have described is a result of the success of this policy. If we were to reverse it, the increase in production and output would not continue.

Mr Stephen Dorrell: (Loughborough, C): It is not clear that the fluctuation in the exchange rate over the past two years has been a major impediment to the growth of world trade.

As we rely so heavily on an expanding base of world trade, is it not in our interest to work with our European and American partners for greater exchange rate stability?

Mr Brittan: We should seek to work with them and persuade them, as we have to a large extent been successful in doing, to pursue policies with regard to inflation and Budget deficits which would lead to stability in the exchange rate greater than we have had.

Mr Robin Cook, an Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs (Edinburgh, Central, Lab): If he is convinced that recovery is under way, when will manufacturing investment rise 37 per cent, and manufacturing output 22 per cent back to their 1979 levels, when will bankruptcies fall by 67 per cent back to the 1979 level, and when will unemployment go down by two million to its 1979 level?

Mr Brittan: If he is trying to tell us that there has been a recession, we are well aware of that.

British key fitted US missile

DEFENCE

A serious incident involving Thor missiles in 1962 had only recently come to light, **Dr David Owen** (Plymouth, Devonport, SDP) said when he unsuccessfully sought an emergency debate in the Commons on the desirability of a dual control key control mechanism for cruise missiles.

He said a Royal Air Force technician had discovered during routine servicing of an inert missile that a British key turned the United States Air Force lock.

The Prime Minister had confirmed to him details of the 1962 incident which had not been reported at the time to the government of the day. It had direct relevance to the debate about control of cruise missiles were they to be deployed in this country.

It was not sufficient to have confidence alone in the joint decision making of a President and a Prime Minister. The House should also have confidence in the actual launch control mechanism for British-based missiles.

After the RAF technician's discovery, a comprehensive check of the other missiles revealed that a British key fitted one other USAF lock.

Labour move to abolish NIS

As a direct consequence of its economic policies the Government had seen a desolation of industry without example in the western world, **Mr Robert Sheldon,** an Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs (Ashton-under-Lyne, Lab), said when the committee stage of the Finance Bill was resumed. He moved a new clause, considered with a similar Liberal-SDP new clause, to abolish the national insurance surcharge.

Next week

The main business in the Commons next week will be:

Tuesday and Wednesday: Progress on the remaining stages of the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill.

Thursday: Remaining stages of the *Mobile Homes Bill and the National* Heritage Bill.

Friday: Private members' Bills.

The main business in the House of Lords next week will be:

Tuesday: Energy Bill, report. Social Security and Housing Benefits Bill, second reading. Debate on American nuclear and other bases

Wednesday: Debate on Soviet penetration and influence in the Third World.

Thursday: Telecommunications Bill, committee, first day.

Friday: Parochial Charities (Neighbourhood Trusts) Bill.

Right to buy clause not to be reinserted

HOUSING BILL

The Government does not intend to replace the clause in the Housing and Building Control Bill which would have extended right to buy provisions to properties occupied by tenants of charitable housing associations and housing trusts and which was rejected in the Lords by 182 votes to 96 on Tuesday, **Lord Bellwin,** Minister for Local Government and Environmental Services, announced in the House of Lords at the beginning of the second day of the Bill's committee stage.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Private members' Bills. Copyright (Amendmemt) Bill, report. Coroners' Juries Bill.

Family doctor service review

The administration of the family practitioner services in England and Wales is to be reviewed, Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister for Health, announced in a written answer.

He said it was proposed to invite management consultants, working with the Department of Health and Social Security and the Welsh Office, to undertake the review.

Police accept checks on computer records

By Clive Cookson, Technology Correspondent

The Merseyside police have accepted a stringent set of data protection safeguards, to win the support of its Labour-controlled county police committee for a project to computerize criminal records at an estimated cost of £3m.

Senior officers agreed to seven safeguards at a private meeting this week of the committee's computer panel. They strengthen a code of practice agreed last November when the authority approved a much smaller project involving the conversion of records, held on paper or microfilm, to computer data.

The panel will recommend the full committee to invite tenders for the system, which will be limited to "criminal records" – facts about convictions. According to Mr John George, the panel chairman, the police have dropped their original idea that the computer should also be used for "crime reporting", details of crimes for which no one has been convicted, and for "criminal intelligence", additional information gathered by officers about criminals' activities.

Panel members felt that the latter could become a threat to *civil liberties.*

The two most important safeguards agreed this week are that people will be allowed access to their files, if they want to check the accuracy of their own criminal records, and that an independent outside observer will monitor the system.

However the agreement could be jeopardized if the Data Protection Bill now going through Parliament emerges in a form that would make the Merseyside safeguards illegal. In that case the committee might abandon the project, Mr George said.

Leaving criminal intelligence and crime reporting out of the computer is expected to save only £150,000 out of the cost, likely to be about £3m, that is because the main cost will be to integrate the new system with Merseyside's advanced command and control computer, which came into operation last year.

Motor cycle ace never took test

From Our Correspondent
Derby

Ron Haslam, aged 26, the motor cycle racing star, was fined £130 by magistrates in Ilkeston, Derbyshire, yesterday, *for riding a motor* cycle without L-plates, insurance and a crash helmet.

Haslam, of Milnbay Road, Langley Mill, Nottinghamshire, explained that as a track rider he was ranked as the world's number two but he had never bothered to take a motor cycle driving test.

Mr John Hargreaves, for prosecution, said that Haslam was stopped while riding a Suzuki 250 near his sister's home in Heanor, Derbyshire last September. Haslam's solicitor, Mr John Calladine said: "Mr Haslam is a professional motor cyclist of some skill and repute but he does not ride the motor cycles on the road and has never taken a motor cycle test".

He added that Haslam had been doing his sister's boy friend a favour by examining the Suzuki machine, which had a gearbox fault. He had gone only 25 yards in first gear and was about to return to the house when he was stopped by the police. Haslam, who admitted the offences, also had his licence endorsed, had six penalty points awarded against him and was ordered to pay £7 costs. Afterwards he said: "It's not been my week. Last weekend I thought I was going to come second in the race at Monza but the bike broke down on the last lap and now today I get fined for this.

"I never felt the need to ride a bike on the roads. I get all my excitement from racing. I have a car licence and drive to all the races so I'm glad I was not banned." He added: "I was stopped riding a Suzuki by the policeman – the team I ride for is Honda."



Court lesson: Ron Haslam, the motor cycle champion after being fined yesterday.

The back-room workers

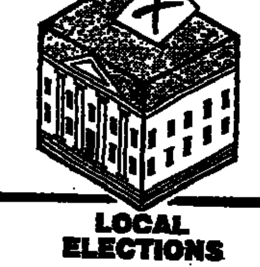
Activists prepare for battle

By David Walker
Local Government
Correspondent

Mrs Wendy Talley is the tolerant empress of the semi-derelict house in Broomfield Road, Chelmsford, which the local Liberal Party recently took over for its headquarters. Upstairs an old oil painting of William Ewart Gladstone looks down on her large-scale map of the town, while downstairs a trestle table is laden with the bric-a-brac of electioneering: posters, rosettes and those garish orange tee-shirts beloved of Young Liberals.

Mrs Talley, aged 36, whose husband is a Liberal councillor, is paid as a part-time constituency agent, but she works all the time. For more than two months her life has been completely given over the the elections. "The other day my telephone was broken. But there was no peace; people kept on knocking at the door," she said.

If the Liberal election machine wins control of the district council in Chelmsford on Thursday, much credit will be due to Mrs Talley. People like her exist in all the leading parties and in most areas.



The total number of municipal activists is small, but they perform a vital function. Without them election addresses and manifestos would not come through the letter box, candidates would not get their nomination papers signed and the foot-soldiers would not be roused to go out canvassing on damp, dark evenings.

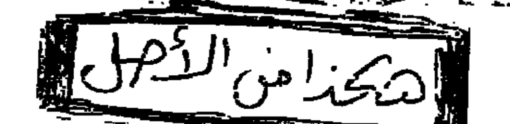
What makes an activist? Mr John Vaughan Jones, an official at the Labour Party's Welsh headquarters in Cardiff, said: "If you don't enjoy meeting people you shouldn't be in politics. For some people it is the sheer enjoyment of fighting elections."

The type of people who become active in local elections has changed, he suggested: "Traditionally in the Welsh valleys the burden was carried by the trade union activists who tended to be the same people as those involved in the chapel and the rugby clubs. Now, younger people are coming in, committed to socialism and seeing in the local authority a natural place to express that commitment."

Friendliness is a necessary ingredient, Mr Anthony Garrett, the deputy agent for the Conservative Party's south-east region, said. "People actively involved are often working on behalf of people they know very well indeed; it's like working for a friend."

A Liberal candidate in Chelmsford said: "Sometimes you get tired and long for more time with the wife and family." Canvassing and political work during the election campaign takes up three hours a night, five nights a week, and the pace is telling.

"But once in a while you knock on a door and you find somebody who has benefited from one of our campaigns, or our casework. Then it all becomes worthwhile."



هكذا من الأصل



THE NEW VOLVO 760 GLE. ITS SHAPE HAS MET WITH SOME RESISTANCE IN THE PRESS BUT VERY LITTLE ON THE ROAD.

In a world where it's often difficult to tell one car from another, no-one can mistake the new Volvo 760 GLE.

Its elegant profile is instantly recognisable.

Basically a wedge shape, it has a low bonnet, clearly sculptured edges and a steeply raked rear windscreen.

It is extremely aerodynamic giving a resistant co-efficient of just under 0.40.

(Equally important, it also gives three rear seat passengers the chance to sit up in comfort.)

A few journalists were surprised by the car's unusual profile but no-one has questioned its efficiency.

Although a roomy 5-seater, 6-cylinder saloon, the new Volvo is surprisingly economical.

The automatic model gives you 25 mpg (at 75 mph) 32.1 mpg (at 56 mph) and 17.9 mpg (Urban).

Of course, this economy is not solely due to the car's styling.

The 760 GLE is some 88lbs lighter than Volvo's previous 6-cylinder saloon.

While the car's new automatic transmission is equipped with an overdrive that reduces the engine's fuel consumption at speed, quite dramatically.

A DRIVER'S CAR.

Economy, however, is rarely the main reason for buying a car of this class.

The Volvo 760 GLE has to meet the needs of the driver as well as the needs of society.

It does it triumphantly.

"Ultimate handling is a delight with total predictability and neutral balance in fast curves, gentle understeer in the slower ones." AUTOCAR.

"The car showed excellent stability at all speeds." MOTOR TREND.

The Volvo 760 GLE is very much a driver's car.

Top speed is 118 mph and 60 mph can be reached in just under 10 seconds, but it's the sheer driveability of the car that marks it out as special.

The long wheelbase and wide track give the car wonderful stability – even when buffeted by side winds, but the biggest contribution to the outstanding handling is made by the new rear suspension.

Volvo have introduced an entirely new constant track rear axle with a patented sub-frame.

This not only improves road holding but gives less vibration and lower noise levels.

Motor Trend summed it up this way:

"The new 760 saloons are capable of getting from Point A to Point B in a better than average hurry. With reassuring stability. Traditional Volvo comfort. And a level of luxury that is new for this company."

Inside, the car is indeed extremely comfortable.

The new front seats have been developed in co-operation with orthopaedic experts at the Sahlgrenska Hospital in Gothenburg.

Both are electrically heated. The seats automatically warm up at temperatures below 14°C.

You can choose leather or plush velour and the upholstery colour is repeated on the door panels and dashboard.

The dashboard itself is angled towards the driver so all the controls are within easy reach.

"Ergonomically the 760 GLE is excellent." AUTOCAR.

It is also extremely well-equipped.

Full air conditioning, electric windows and door mirrors, central locking, metallic paint, tinted glass, power steering and alloy wheels are all standard.

You'll also find a host of extra little touches that make the 760 GLE a very satisfying car to live with.

For example, when you close the driver's door after getting in the car the courtesy light stays on for 15 seconds giving you time to put the key in the ignition.

There are no less than 10 different storage areas inside the car and there are reading lamps for both front and rear seats.

The boot, too, is especially accommodating.

And if the 760 GLE does well by your suitcases it does even better by your rear seat passengers.

The rear seat is unusually wide due to the absence of any wheel arches and the high roof line gives plenty of headroom.

THE TRADITIONAL VIRTUES.

Underlying all this enjoyment, of course, is Volvo's traditional concern with safety and reliability.

The new Volvo more than meets every international safety regulation.

For example, the USA authorities demand that a car must meet stringent frontal collision standards.

The Volvo 760 GLE easily exceeds these standards, being able to absorb an impact some 36% greater than the regulations require.

When a car maker goes to that kind of trouble when it doesn't have to, you know you're in safe hands.

But if longevity of the occupants is a Volvo pre-occupation so is the longevity of the car.

Nobody makes longer lasting cars than Volvo.

The latest statistics to come from the Swedish Motor Inspection Company show that the Volvo has an average life expectancy of 19.3 years.

Longer than any other car in the survey.

The 760 GLE more than matches the quality of past Volvos, it improves on it.

To help prevent rust approximately one-third of the Volvo's bodywork is Zincrometal or zinc-coated sheet metal. About 18 square metres in all.

HOW MUCH? WHERE CAN I SEE IT?

The Volvo 760 GLE is at your nearest Volvo showroom now.

Prices start at £12,041, a figure that compares very favourably with other luxury cars on the market.

However, as with the car's looks, we're happy for you to judge the car's value for yourself.

If you'd like a colour brochure, ask your secretary to call us at the number below or send us your business card and we'll do the rest.

Better still, call in and see the car in the showroom.

You'll find, even standing still, it overcomes any resistance.

VOLVO

PRICES FOR THE NEW VOLVO 760 SERIES START AT £12041 FOR MANUAL MODEL. CAR TAX & VAT INCLUDED (DELIVERY & NUMBER PLATES EXTRA). BROCHURES & SALES INFORMATION TEL: HIGH WYCOMBE (0494) 33444. OR WRITE TO: DEPT T14- VOLVO CUSTOMER SERVICES, HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKS HP12 3PN. EXPORT SALES TEL: 01-493 0321.

Reagan's Central America doctrine

President outlines four goals to provide long-term strategy

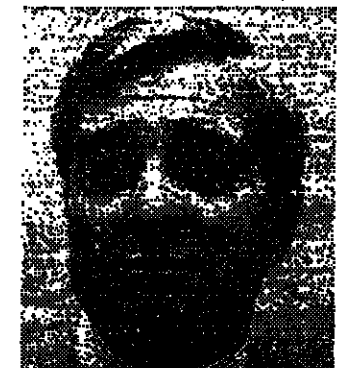
From Nicholas Ashford
Washington

President Reagan's address to a joint session of Congress on Wednesday night is likely to become known as "the Reagan doctrine on Central America".

In his speech Mr Reagan set out broad objectives which are likely to provide the basis of American policy towards the region for years to come. These are a commitment by the US to encourage the development of democracy in Central America; to help the countries of the region defend themselves against left-wing revolution and tyranny; to encourage economic development so as to eradicate poverty and other root causes for internal unrest; and to support dialogue and negotiation among and within the countries of the region.

In an attempt to alert American public opinion to the threat that unrest in Central America poses to the US, the President warned that "the national security of all the Americas is at stake in Central America. If we cannot defend ourselves there, we cannot expect to prevail elsewhere. Our credibility would collapse, our alliances would crumble, and the safety or our homeland would be put in jeopardy."

Although Mr Reagan's speech contained no new initiatives, it did include suggestions of compromise. He said the US would support any agreement reached by Central American countries for withdrawal of all foreign forces and appeared to leave the door open for diplomatic efforts that could involve some of the left-wing insurgents in El Salvador.



Senator Percy: 'Better chance of approval'

Senator Kasten: Bipartisan support

The President also announced – but did not name – the appointment of a special envoy to Central America. The envoy is expected to be Mr Richard Stone, a former Florida senator, although some congressmen have expressed reservations about Mr Stone's previous connexions with the Government of Guatemala.

The immediate aim of the address was to gain congressional approval for the military and economic assistance programme to El Salvador and other countries in the region. This programme, amounting to $600m for fiscal 1984, has been floundering around Capitol Hill for weeks because of congressional concern about the Administration's objectives – particularly its military aid for El Salvador – and the pervasive fear that the US could find itself embroiled in another Vietnam-style conflict.

President Reagan tried to allay these fears by pledging that no US combat troops would be sent to the region and by using language which, while tough when referring to the left-wing Sandinista regime in Nicaragua, was relatively muted and unbellicose.

Whether he has succeeded in winning the bipartisan support for his policy which he repeatedly sought during his address remains unclear. In the official democratic response broadcast immediately after his speech Senator Christopher Dodd described his plea for more military aid as a "formula for failure".

Instead, Senator Dodd urged increased economic aid to relieve "the factors which breed revolution". He said the US should use its power and influence to achieve an immediate end to hostilities in both El Salvador and Nicaruagua and work for negotiated political settlements in the region.

Senator Edward Kennedy welcomed the decision to appoint a special presidential envoy, but feared that the President's overall policy was "a prescription for a wider war".

Senator Charles Percy, the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, felt, however, that the President had a better chance than before the speech of winning congressional approval for the $110m in military aid to El Salvador

Senator Robert Kasten, chairman of the Appropriations Subcommitee on Foreign Operations, predicted that Mr Reagan would now be able to develop the bipartisan support he needs for his programme to be approved.

Several congressmen expressed concern at the President's failure to refer to the covert aid that the CIA is giving to anti-Sandista insurgents fighting against the Nicaraguan Government. His remarks about Nicaragua have been interpreted as meaning that this clandestine assistance will continue.

The first test of congressional reaction to the President's speech will place almost immediately when the House Intelligence Committee meets to consider a proposal to sever covert military aid to Nicaraguan rebels. The proposal instead proposes overt aid to friendly nations to help stem the flow of weapons to guerrillas in El Salvador.

Senōr Miguel D'Escoto, Nicaragua's Foreign Minister, yesterday branded President Reagan a liar and predicted that Congress would block his request for additional aid to fight left-wing forces in the region. Appearing on American television via satellite he declared: "We don't have any foreign troops at all."

Leading article, page 13

Night at the ballet: Princess Anne talking with Japan's Princess Chichibu before last night's performance in Tokyo by Britain's Royal Ballet. On her left is Prince Hiro, the son of Japan's Crown Prince Akihito. Earlier Princess Anne, on the sixth day of a Japanese tour with Captain Mark Phillips, inaugurated Austin Rover Japan, the car company's new marketing operation, at a ceremony in Tokyo.

Armed street protest called in Nicaragua

Managua (Reuter) – Nicaragua's left-wing government has called for armed protest marches throughout the country in response to an appeal by president Reagan for more military aid for Central America's anti-leftist government.

Broadcasts by a Nicaraguan government representative said Mr Reagan's address to Congress had slandered Nicaragua.

The broadcasts demanded that the people take to the streets "carrying your rifles, machetes, clubs and any other weapon to show the ability of the Nicaraguan people to defend themselves against aggressions planned by Mr Reagan."

Nicaraguan leaders said Mr Reagan's call was really aimed at laying the groundwork for large-scale attacks on Nicaragua from neighbouring Honduras, the closest American ally in the region.

Honduras welcomed the Reagan speech, and the Government said it supported fully Mr Reagan's opposition to "totalitarian expansion" in the region, including El Salvador.

● CANCUN: President João Figueiredo, of Brazil, visiting this Carribean resort in Mexico for talks wih President Miguel de la Madrid, rejected Mr Reagan's position that Nicaragua threatens US security, AP and Reuter report.

"If the United States thinks the situation in Nicaragua represents a risk for their security, that's their problem", he told reporters, "and if they decide to intervene in Nicaragua, they'll be doing that without the support of Brazil.

"The region cannot be considered only from the perspective of ideological confrontation or by resorting to solutions of force."

The President said the United States was partly to blame for Nicaragua's swing towards the Soviet block. If Nicaragua had received economic aid from rich countries, especially the United States, then it would not be in the current situation.

● SAN SALVADOR: General Eugenio Vides Casanova the Defence Minister, said the people and armed forces of El Salvador were grateful to President Reagan for his efforts to shore up democracy in Central America. Reuter reports.

He said Mr Reagan's call would "wake the consciousness of the American people to the threat of commumism

● MOSCOW: Tass accused Mr Reagan of smearing the Nicaraguan Government and of shifting blame for tension in Central. America, Reuter and AFP reports.

"He alleged that the United States and the entire Western world faced a terrible danger as a result of the revolutionary development of the region." Tass said.

● LONDON: Mr Denis Healey the Opposition spokesman on foreign affairs, accused Mr Reagan of "acting like a recruiting sergeant for communism in the whole Caribbean area", the Press Association reports. He described the President's speech as lamentable.

Speaking on BBC radio's *Today* programme, Mr Healey said the President's speech "would make a very dangerous situation very much worse".

By raising the stakes, Mr Reagan was bringing America "a big step closer to direct American involvement as it was in Vietnam. In the end, if America really believes what President Reagan says, It would have to put its own troops in and that would be a total disaster."

Assurance to Congress of no combat troops

The following are extracts form President Reagan's address on Central America to a joint session of congress on Wednesday:

For several years now, under two Administrations, the United States has been increasing its defence of freedom in the Caribbean basin. Democracy is beginning to take root in El Salvador which, until a short time ago, knew only dictatorship. The new Government is now delivering on its promises of democracy, reforms, and free elections.

The people of El Salvador are earning their freedom and they deserve our moral and material support to protect it.

The Sandinista revolution in Nicaragua turned out to be just an exchange of one set of autocratic rulers for another, and the people still have no freedom, no democratic rights, and more proverty. Even worse than its predecessor, it is helping Cuba and the Soviets to destabilize our hemisphere.

But let us be clear as to the American attitude toward the Government of Nicaragua. We do not seek its overthrow. Our interest is to insure that it does not infect its neighbours through the export of subversion and violence. Our purpose, in conformity with American and international law, is to prevent the flow of arms to El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala and Costa Rica.

Some people talk as though the United States were incapable of acting effectively in international affairs without risking war or damaging those we seek to help.

Are democracies required to remain passive while threats to their security and prosperity accumalate? Must we just accept the destabilization of an entire region from the Panama Canal to Mexico on our southern border?

... Let me say to those who invoke the memory of Vietnam: there is no thought of sending American combat troops to Central America; they are not needed – indeed they have not been requested there.

... I offer these assurances:

The United States will support any agreement among Central American countries for the withdrawal – under fully verifiable and reciprocal conditions – of all foreign military and security advisers and troops.

We want to help opposition groups join the political process in all countries and compete by ballots instead of bullets.

We will support any verifiable, reciprocal agreement among Central American countries on the renunciation of support for insurgencies on neighbours' territory.

And, finally, we desire to help Central America end its costly arms race, and will support any verifiable, reciprocal agreements on the non-importation of offensive weapons.

To move us toward these goals more rapidly I am tonight announcing my intention to name an ambassador-at-large as my special envoy to Central America. He or she will report to me through the Secretary of State. The ambassador's responsibilities will be to lend US support to the efforts of regional governments to bring peace to this troubled area and to work closely with the Congress to assure the fullest possible bipartisan coordination of our policies toward the region.

What I am asking for is prompt congressional approval for the full reprogramming of funds for key current economic and security programmes so that the people of central America can hold the line against externally supported aggression.

In addition, I am asking for prompt action on the supplemental request in these same areas to carry us through the current fiscal year, and for early and favourable congressional action on my requests for fiscal year 1984.

Finally, I an asking that the bipartisan consensus, which last year acted on the trade and tax provisions of the Caribbean basin initiative in the House, again take the lead to move this vital proposal to the floor to both chambers.

In summation, I say to you that tonight there can be no question: The national security of all the Americas is at stake in Central America. If we cannot defend ourselves there, we cannot expect to prevail elsewhere. Our credibility would collapse, our alliances would crumble, and the safety of our homeland would be put at jeopardy.

We have a vital interest, a moral duty, and a solemn responsibility.

Fatigue defeats farm ministers

From Ian Murray, Luxembourg

Tiredness, technical detail, obstinacy and the threat of 3,000 angry French farmers between them put paid to attempts in Luxembourg throughout Wednesday night to agree on an EEC farm price package for the year ahead.

After 17 hours of discussion the 10 ministers just could not find the political and physical will to go on ploughing through remaining detail.

At 9 am yesterday they gave up and adjourned the argument until May 16. Then they climbed wearily into their cars and drove off through barricades the Luxembourg police were already erecting to protect the area from the coachloads of French farmers known to be converging on Luxembourg.

The marathon session had come tantalizingly close to reaching agreement on the main argument over the levels of "green rates" which adjust farm prices by taking account of differences in currencies.

But despite a skilful manipulation of the rules being suggested by the West German presidency, which would have had the effect of closing the gap between prices for farmers in weak currency and strong currency countries, it proved in the end impossible to overcome Italian resistance to the idea.

Britain, too, lodged a protest that the scheme would have been unfair because it did not treat all farmers equally. Mr Peter Walker, the British Agriculture Minister, wanted assurance that the suggested green rate manipulation would not push the price of the settlement above the 4.2 per cent average, which has already been fixed.

M Michel Rocard, the French minister, blamed not only Italy but Denmark for the breakdown. This was because the Danish minister was resisting demands which would have given an extra rise to French pig farmers.

This was the first marathon session for M Rocard, and he emerged somewhat disillusioned with proceedings.

The common agricultural policy was in danger of collapsing under the weight of its own contradictions, he said. It just could not compete against the commune system of the Eastern block on the one hand and the intensive american system on the other.

M Rocardis, of all the ministers, under the most intensive domestic pressure to reach a settlement. Farmers all over France have begun a campaign of disruptive demonstrations in protest at the delay in fixing the price package, which ought in theory to be agreed by April 1 each year.

There was no doubt on the part of the Luxembourg authorities that the demonsrators on their way to the meeting were prepared to do more than mount a peaceful lobby. Officials, staff and journalists at the meeting were given special maps to help them find their way past the road blocks being erected round the Council meeting place and troops were being mobilized to mount guard.

8,000 medical students march on Paris

From Our Own Correspondent, Paris

Thousands of students marched through the streets of Paris yesterday, but without the violent incidents of Wednesday, when police fired tear gas and water cannon on right-wing law students. More demonstrations by the students have been called for today.

The main demonstration yesterday was by 8,000 medical students who have been on strike since February 14 in protest against proposed study reforms. They kept order with their own policing system, complete with radio control patrols, while the riot police kept their distance.

A demonstration by about 5,000 left-wing students, mainly from arts and social science faculties, was also policed by fellow students. Similar demonstrations, in protest against the Government's plans to introduce a selective examination at the end of the second year in university, were held at Caen, Angers and Dijon.

M Max Gallo, a government spokesman, said that the police had been given orders to protect the functioning of state institutions. The National Assembly was suspended for a few minutes on Wednesday as students clashed with the police outside.

Farmers continued their protests throughout France yesterday, blocking motorways and customs posts and seizing lorries carrying imported agricultural produce. Thousands of tons of butter, pork, ham, strawberries, vegetables and flowers were dumped on the roads and destroyed.

At Lannion, Brittany, police fired tear gas and water cannon as about a 100 farmers, attacked the police station early yesterday morning.

Ecuador landslide buries 100

Quito (Reuter) – More than 100 people were feared killed when an avalanche of mud and rocks buried lorries and buses on a highway in southern Ecuador.

In a report from the scene of the disaster in Chimborazo province, 180 miles south of Quito, a government spokesman said it was perhaps the worst such catastrophe in Ecuador. President Osvaldo Hurtado said he would supervise rescue operations by police, troops, firemen and civil defence personnel.

"The size of the tragedy ... has the Government and all Ecuadoreans overwhelmed with pain", he said.

The Interior Ministry reported earlier that 12 bodies had been recovered from the scene of the landslide, which blocked about 500 yards of the main highway between Quito and Cuenca, the country's third largest city.

Christmas tree used as bribe

Moscow (Reuter) – A Soviet airport official has been jailed for 12 years for helping to smuggle cultural treasures from the Soviet Uniion in return for bribes.

The trade union daily *Trud* said the official used flight staff of the state airline Aeroflot to smuggle abroad precious handwoven carpets, silverware and other valuables in return for cash, cognac, chocolates and even a Christmas tree.

Delhi deadline

Delhi (Reuter) – The Indian Government gave Sikh religious authorities one week to hand over a murder suspect believed to be sheltering in the holiest Sikh shrine, the Golden Temple at Amritsar in Punjab state. A police deputy inspector-general was killed outside the temple entrance on Monday.

Boys in skirts

Fontana, California (AP) – When Fontana High School banned shorts, some 60 male students protested by coming to school in dresses and miniskirts. A student spokesman said the ban was unfair because "the girls can be comfortable in mini-skirts when it's warm, but we can't."

'Ghandi' award

Rome (AP)–Sir Richard Attenborough, the director of *Ghandi*, won the "European David" prize here for promoting "the ideals of brotherhood and humanity." His film on the life of the Indian statesman also won three nominations for Italian academy awards in July.

Rugby 'crusade'

M Albert Ferrasse, president of the French Rugby Federation, who says he plans a trip to South Africa soon to seek a meeting with Mr P W Botha, the Prime Minister, to speak out against apartheid. He announced his "personal crusade" after meeting President Mitterand whose objection stopped a planned French rugby tour.

Friends again

Los Angeles (Reuter) – Karen Eklund, a model, said here that she has dropped a £3m "Palimony" action against the filmactor, Nick Nolte. "This has made me one of the happies women in the world," she said. adding that they had been reconciled.

Two executed

Vienna (Reuter) – Two men have been executed in Czechoslovakia for murder, the Communist Party daily *Rude Pravo* reported. They were found guilty of killing the cashier of a Prague company during robbery.

Famine relief

Geneva – Three planeloads of dried whole-milk arrived in Ethiopia as part of emergency aid for children and mothers in the drought-stricken provinces of Gonder, Wallo and Tigrai, a spokesman for the World Food Programme said here.

£8,000 ache

Manila (AP) – A court ordered two surgeons to pay about £8,000 in damages for leaving a 5in pair of forceps in a patient's stomach for over two years. The man had complained of stomach ache.

Youth and age

Washington (AP)–President Reagan laughed off a comment by Mr Tip O'Neill, Speaker of the House of Representatives that the President was too old at 72 to seek another term. "It's just a youthful mistake on his part," he said. Mr O'Neill is 70.

France lifts clamp on videos

From Diana Geddes
Paris

France announced yesterday that it had lifted its sixth-month-old restrictions on the importation of video cassette recorders, more than 90 per cent of which come from Japan, but at the same time issued a warning that further measures would be taken against Japanese imports if France's foreign trade with Japan did not improve.

Last year France had a deficit with Japan of 12,000m francs (£1,000m), up from 7,000m francs in the previous year. The Government's decision last October to "centralize" customs clearance for video imports in a single, out-of-the-way customs post at Poitiers, 200 miles south-west of Paris, was intended as a symbolic warning to Japan and a measure to aid the French video industry.

Video cassette imports, which had been flooding in at a rate of nearly 3,000 a day, were reduced to a trickle. In lifting the restrictions, France has not set any quota on imports, but it is hoping that Japan will voluntarily limit them

Mme Edith Cresson, Minister for Trade, said yesterday that the Government would "not hesitate to take other measures of the same type" if the trade deficit between the two countries deteriorated.



Admirals brief the ambassador: Admirals Staveley (left) and McDonald with Signor Eric da Rin (centre).

Nato has 'only half the warships' it needs

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

Nato's two leading naval commanders complained yesterday of being up to 50 per cent short of the warships they need in the Atlantic and English Channel.

A long-standing need for more frigates and destroyers has been sharpened by the preoccupation of some member countries with out-of-area operations like that around the Falklands according to Admiral Wesley McDonald, Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic.

But he and Admiral Sir William Staveley of the Royal Navy who is Nato's Commander-in-Chief in the Eastern Atlantic and Channel, also pointed to "a terrible shortage" of mine warfare vessels, with only three coastal minesweepers available to patrol the US coast.

The two men briefed Nato representatives, including Ambassador Eric da Rin, the Italian deputy secretary-general of the alliance, at Admiral Staveley's underground command post at Northwood, Middlesex, which was also operational headquarters for last year's Falklands War.

Both Britain and America have been commissioning civilian vessels like trawlers and pleasure craft to complement new high-technology mine counter-measures vessels now coming into service.

Both admirals are urging member countries to raise their force levels after analysing the requirements to be met in the North Atlantic.

Admiral McDonald identified the submarine fleet as the "most dire threat" facing the alliance. Britain, he disclosed, had been preparing to take the Arapaho, an American experimental container ship converted to carry anti-submarine helicopters, to the South Atlantic last year had the Falklands fighting continued.

At a press conference held after their classified briefing of the representatives, he spoke of being short of about 60 escort vessels of one kind or another in the Atlantic.

America was trying to raise its own force level by building up a 600-ship navy, against strong competition for funds in Congress. But the recent fleet of more than 400 hulls had to be compared with the 975 in service in the late 1960s, he said.

Watered-down jobs pact given MEPs' approval

From Our Own Correspondent Brussels

The European Parliament yesterday voted through a much watered down "employment pact" for the Community which calls for a more concerted European action and great cooperation between member states to settle the unemployment problem.

It was the first session to be held in Brussels and attracted the highest-ever attendance of MEPs.

The big turnout of 364 of the 434 members underlined Parliament's concern about the subject. But the resolution they agreed after two days of debate were immediately condemned by Mr George Debunry, general-secretary of the 30 million-strong European Trade Union confederation, as being inadequate.

The resolution, he said, did not give sufficient warning to the Council of Ministers and the Commission that they should do something to tackle the problem. He did not believe the proposals themselves contained anything which could help improve the situation.

The centre-right majority within the Parliament voted down all references in the final resolution to the idea of increasing public spending to create jobs,

The main resolution was based on the report drawn up by Mr Estratios Papaefstratiou of the Greek People's Party. But the Parliament rejected his call for a modest reflation by countries with stronger economies, and turned down his suggestion that national governments should commit at least 1 per cent of their gross national product to joint investment projects.

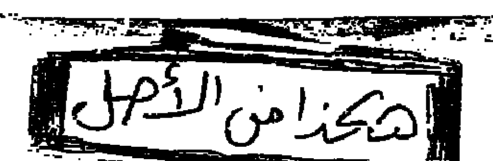
The main overall demand agreed was for a doubling of the Community's social regional funds, which are the main weapons in the hands of the Commission for launching projects to create jobs.

Nobody claimed that this package of resolutions was in any way a miracle cure for unemployment, and the Socialists and French communist groups were so annoyed at what they felt was the weakness of the main resolution was that they voted against it.

Sir Fred Catherwood, Conservative MEP for Cambridge, said afterwards that the most important contribution which the community could make towards solving the unemployment problem was to build a stable currency.

He would be pressing the British Government to help by becoming full members of the European Monetary System.

● Lead-free zone: A motion calling on the European Commission to rush through proposals which would make the EEC a "lead-free petrol zone" will be placed before the Parliament in June.



هكذا من الاصل

Spanish coup officers have prison terms upheld or heavily increased

From Our Own Correspondent
Madrid

The Spanish Supreme Court yesterday upheld the maximum sentences of 30 years imprisonment on two senior Army officers for their role in the attempted coup of February, 1981, and raised the sentence of a third officer, General Alfonso Armada, from six to the maximum 30 years.

The authorities had appealed to the Supreme Court against sentences handed down last June by a military court martial on 33 people involved in the plot.

The Supreme Court increased the sentences in 21 of the 33 cases brought before it, only one of which concerned a civilian. It also quashed the acquittals of all eight parliamentary civil guard lieutenants who helped to storm Parliament, dismissing the military judges' findings of due obedience to superior orders as contrary to military regulations.

Señor Juan Garcia, the only civilian was found guilty of conspiring in a military rebellion and had his two-year sentence confirmed.

Five more senior officers, headed by General Luis Torres, had the court martial findings changed from conspiracy to active participation in military rebellion. General Torres was given 12 years instead of six, and Colonel Jose San Martin received 10 years instead of three.

Seven of the eight Civil Guard lieutenants received one year prison sentences. The



Above: Generals Armada (left) and del Bosch, 30 years each. Below: Colonel Tejero (left), 30 years, and General Torres Rojas, 12 years.



eighth, lieutenant Vicente Ramos, was given two years. The Supreme Court agreed with the prosecution argument that his manhandling in Parliament of the then deputy prime minister in charge of defence matters and an army general could not go unpunished.

So the seven civilian judges accepted the arguments of the prosecution that General Armadi (at one time secretary to King Juan Carlos) was jointly responsible for the rebellion with Lieutenant-General Jaime Milans del Bosch, the former Valencia Captain-General and Lieutenant-Colonel Antonio Tejero, who led the civil guards in storming Parliament, whose 30-year sentences were confirmed yesterday.

General Milans, aged 68 and head of a military family over generations with great prestige in extreme right-wing military and civilian circles, General Armada, aged 63, and Colonel Tejero will be dismissed the service. Like all those found guilty, they will do their prison terms in military establishments.

The trial itself could not under the law be held before the civilian courts in the initial stages, and the officers cannot be sent to civilian jails because the code of military justice has not yet been reformed by Parliament.

The findings, coming just over two years and two months after Parliament and the full Cabinet were held hostage for 18 hours, were pronounced by Señor Felipe González, the Prime Minister, as "extraordinarily clear and absolutely respectable". He said the court's message was that no one could rebel against the constitutional order with impunity.

Certainly the findings underlined the leniency of the military tribunal last June and amply justified the appeal filed immediately afterwards by the Centre Democrat Government of the day.

However, they were described as "very hard" by Lieutenant-General Nanual Esquivias, president of the Supreme Council of Military Justice, the body which formed last year's court martial.

Though promising to accept the findings, General Esquivias said the civilian court appeared to have applied maxumum sentences "where we awarded the minimum ones". The military council is to review the findings next week.

The Supreme Court left open an appeal to the Government to commute the maximum sentences, as the council of military justice recommended last year.

Its 240-page finding, which was broadcast live by Spanish radio, rejected the procedural complaints of the defence. The plotters' use of terrorism and the doctrine of acting out of necessity, could not justify attacking Parliament or the constitutional set-up, the judges said.

The Supreme Court gave a five-day period to those found guilty to file clemency petitions to the Government. No decision has yet been taken by the military authorities where to send those found guilty, but some castles in the military's charge have been recently refurbished.

The Civil Guard officers, however, have already served their prison terms awaiting trial.

Defence counsel said that they are to appeal to Spain's constitutional court which, while not an appeal court against yesterday's findings, does have jurisdiction if a citizen's fundamental rights are deemed infringed.



Twin's gift of a baby

Magali Crozel (left), aged 31, smiling at her twin sister, Christine, in Montpelier last November, as they awaited the birth of Magoli's child. On Wednesday in Nimes, Magali, who is sterile, had a son produced by Christine, who had been artificially inseminated by Magali's husband, Diana Geddes writes.

Magali, who suffered many of the pains and cravings of her sister during the pregnancy, was present throughout the birth of Stephane. She said she had no problems feeling that he was her own child.

As the twins were produced from a single egg and have identical genes, Stephane will have the same genetic make-up as if he had been produced by Magali.

Insults and punches traded at Botha rally

From Michael Hornsby
Johannesburg

Punches and insults were traded at a rally addressed by Mr P. W. Botha, the South African Prime Minister, in Pretoria on Wednesday night, reflecting the increasing bitterness of the political campaigning in the run-up to four crucial by-elections in the Transvaal on May 10.

Tension at the rally – attended by about 1,500 people – mounted as Mr Botha was repeatedly heckled by members of the Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging (AWB), or Afrikaner Resistance Movement, an ultra-racist and undisguisedly fascist organization with a swastika-like emblem and black shirt youth wings.

Supporters of Mr Botha's ruling National Party pulled one heckler roughly to the ground as he tried to question the Prime Minister.

Mr Botha called one of his tormentors and orang-utan and referred to others as "white barbarians". He said he would asking Mr Louis le Grange, Minister of Law and Order, to conduct an immediate investigation into the AWB, adding: "We cannot allow thses people to spread disorder".

The meeting was held in the well-to-do Waterkloof suburb of Pretoria where, the main challenge to the Government on May 10 will come from the liberal and staunchly anti-apartheid Progressive Federal Party.

The four by-elections, three of them to parliamentary seats and one to a Provincial Council seat, are seen as a crucial test of right-wing opposition to the Government's modest constitutional reforms, which would give a strictly qualified franchise to the mixed-blood Coloured and Indian minorities.

Mr Botha has announced that the Draft Constitution Amendment Bill will be presented to Parliament early next week.

It was originally supposed to have been presented before the Easter Recess, and the delay led to charges that the Government was afraid to disclose details before the by-elections.

After the meeting Mr Botha called on the breakaway Conservative Party to tell South Africa that it had severed all links with the AWB.

The AWB, founded in the early 1970s, has links with the pro-Nazi organization which opposed South Africa's entry into the Second World War, and to which Mr Botha himself belonged for a time.

Election background, page 12

Greece fails to check rising tide of strikes

From Mario Modiano
Athens

The Greek Governments resourceful efforts to check the rising tide of Labour unrest have apparently yielded no results, despite the invocation of external threats to the nation, methodical attempts to divide the strikers, and even a veiled warning that they would be mobilized and forced back to work.

The crews of 1,700 Athens public buses are staging wildcat strikes during peak traffic hours, demanding higher pay. They have been joined by the capital's 15,000 taxi drivers who are unhappy about taxes. Tourist coaches were brought in to relieve the ensuring chaos, but confusion grew as the state television broadcast misleading reports that the bus strike was over.

Private school teachers have been on strike for three weeks pressing for greater job protection, while hospital doctors began a two-day stoppage yesterday because the Government is holding up a new health Bill which grants them higher salaries.

The Government has reacted against this unrest with a sledgehammer, probably because these are sensitive areas where strikes provoke anti-government feelings. The inner Cabinet met and decided to mobilize bus crews, after first giving them a chance to recant.

The ruling Pasok party's executive under Mr Andreas Papandreou, the Prime Minister, put out a stern statement: "Just as the government of change is fighting the battle for national independence and the protection of Hellenism, one is astounded by this sudden eruption of strikes".

A few hours later, as the Government released telegrams from trade unions promising to stage no strikes while national independence was at stake, a big diplomatic row erupted with the United States about the future of the American bases in Greece and American military aid to Greece and Turkey.

More and more Greeks now suspect that the US-Greek crisis was atrificial, the more so since the Government openly encouraged a huge anti-American rally in central Athens last night organized by the government-controlled General Confederation of Greek Workers.

At the root of the current uneasiness is the wage freeze for 1983 which the Government seems determined to enforce.

Soares weighs chances of forming coalition

From Susan MacDonald, Lisbon

President Eanes of Portugal yesterday had his first meeting with Dr Mario Soares, the Socialist Party leader, after his qualified victory in Monday's general election.

Dr Soares said afterwards that he had expressed concern over the country's economic situation and the need for a national consensus to resolve the crisis.

As the election results did not give the Socialist Party an overall majority and Dr Soares has stated that he will not form a minority government, he has taken a first step of sending out about 60,000 circulars asking his party members whether they prefer a coalition with the right-wing Christian Democrats, the centre Social Democrats or the Moscow-orientated Communist Party.

Answers must arrive at party headquarters by next Thursday and only after a Socialist political council meeting on the following Saturday will coalition negotiations begin.

However, the Socialists have already turned down a Communist Party offer to hold talks on forming a left-wing coalition saying that the offer surprises them after the anti-Socialist campaign mounted by the Communists before the election. Since 1976, Dr Soares has consistently spoken out against having the Communists in the government.

The most obvious coalition partners would be the Social Democrats, but internal squabbling makes it unclear whether they will agree to help

Dr Soares would also like the Bank of Portugal to outline the state of the economy and plans to hold talks with unions and management in the hope of agreeming future strategy.

Sakharov may take Vienna job

Moscow (Reuter) – Dr Andrei Sakharov, the dissident Soviet nuclear physicist, may have changed his mind about not emigrating to the West and may take up a university post offered to him in Vienna, diplomatic sources in Moscow said yesterday.

They said that the attitude of the Soviet authorities was not yet known but there had been indications in the past that he would be granted an exit visa if he asked of one.

The sources were commenting on a report at Vienna University had offered the Nobel Prize laureate a visiting professorship.

Professor Peter Weinzierl, the head of the university's Institute for Experimental Physics, was quoted as saying that he believed there was a great possibility that the Soviet authorities would allow Mr Sakharov to leave.

One diplomat here said: "In the past there never appeared to be any problems about visas, it was simply that Sakharov did not want to go. There is strong evidence he may have changed his mind".

Dr Sakharov was sent into internal exile in the city of Gorkiy in January, 1980.

Since then his wife, Mrs Yelena Bonner, has travelled regularly to Moscow and reported that her husband was finding it difficult to continue his work as a physicist because he was cut off from information

Mafia stops Mass by archbishop

From Peter Nichols
Rome

Cardinal Pappalardo, Archbishop of Palermo, was prevented by the Mafia from saying Mass in the city's prison, it was learnt in Rome yesterday.

The Cardinal is an outspoken opponent of the Mafia and is credited with much of the responsibility for the Pope's strong condemnation during the Papal visit to Sicily last autumn.

On Saturday the Cardinal went to say Mass at Ucciardone prison, notoriously controlled by members of the Mafia held there. Even ministerial officials admit that this is the reason why it is one of the quiest of Italy's prisons, even though it is in a city suffering from increasing crime.

The Mafia's word within the prison is law, even if the law itself has difficulty being heard.

On Saturday all the prisoners refused to go to Mass, no doubt under pressure from the Mafia elements. So the Cardinal had to leave, very sorrowfully, according to close associates.

Miners trapped

Prague (AP) – Eleven miners were trapped underground in a cave-in at a coal mine in northern Moravia near the Polish border. Rescue work began at once.

هكذا من الاصل

Muldoon uses royal tour for own ends

From James Oram, Auckland

Mr Robert Muldoon, the New Zealand Prime Minister, was *yesterday again* using the royal tour as an exercise in gathering support for his ailing National Party.

He has been doing it since the Prince and Princess of Wales arrived in New Zealand nearly two weeks ago. Muldoon's actions have caused annoyance and embarrassment to royal officials.

Day after day the squat figure of Mr Muldoon had in the wake of the Prince and Princess, being seen prominently at functions no other national leader would dream of attending.

Mr Muldoon prefers royal walkabouts. He shakes hands with the crowd waiting to see the royal couple, chats, cracks jokes in the manner of a local MP visiting a village fête.

In Christchurch yesterday, icy rain did not deter the Prime Minister from continuing with what many observers have called blatant politicizing. Nor did Mr Muldoon mind using the occasion to give a couple of radio interviews.

Standing in the street between the crowds he talked to the BBC – there might be a few New Zealand voters in Britain – and to a local radio station. The tour officials will not publicly admit tha Mr Muldoon has been anything but the ideal host. But privately they say he is an embarrassment. "He turns up everywhere, like a bad penny", *one official said.* "*It is* really incredible. In no other country do you get this. A prime minister is only seen on state occasions and certainly not on walkabouts. They are for the royal visitors and the public – not for politicians."

The reason for Mr Muldon's search for evey possible vote is the slipping popularity of his government and the fact that next year is election year. In a public opinion poll released yesterday Mr Muldoon's National Party received 31.3 per cent support.

The Labour Party, under its new leader, Mr David Lange, was elate about its support, which stood at 52.4 per cent. The *small* Social Credit Party received 8.3 per cent.

Mr Muldoon's persnal popularity has slipped from 38.9 per cent in a February poll to 34.8 per cent yesterday. Mr Lange scored 30.3 per cent.

● CHRISTCHURCH: Yesterday the Prince and Princess of Wales walked about in the rain yet again, in the heart of Christchurch, before going on to the Air Force base at Wigam to *watch a flying display*, Grania Forbes of the Press Association reports. Pince Charles wore his uniform of Air Commodore in Chief of the New Zealand Air Force.



Mini-hijack fails: Gene Kartz, of White Plains, New York, is searched on the ground by a policeman at Albany airport after trying to hijack the diminutive commuter aircraft to Portland, Maine.

Police called in as 29th heart drug baby dies

From John Best, Ottawa

Toronto police are investigating the death of a baby whose body has been found to contain excessive levels of the powerful heart drug Digoxin.

The death on Saturday of *seven-month-old Gary Murphy*, of Kitchener, Ontario, is the latest of 29 infant deaths at Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children linked to possible overdoses of the drug.

Only the day before Mr Roy McMurtry, the Ontario Attorney-General, announced a public inquiry into the deaths of the other 28 babies, which occurred between July, 1980, and March, *1981. All the deaths* have occurred in the hospital's cardiac ward.

At least seven are believed to have been caused by deliberate overdoses of Digoxin.

Nurse Susan Nelles, was discharged on four charges of first-degree murder after a preliminary hearing last May. The judge ruled that there was insufficient evidence to send the case to trial.

But he said there was no doubt that at least some of the infants had been murdered. Miss Nelles has been on paid leave from the hospital since being discharged.

The most recent deaths occurred despite a new drug distribution system at the hospital which allows only single doses of drugs such as Digoxin to be administered.

A coroner decided to call in the police after a post-mortem examination revealed high levels of Digoxin

15,000 fight fires ravaging Japan

Tokyo (Reuter) – nearly 15,000 firemen, troops and police using helicopters yesterday fought forest fires in northern Japan which have destroyed about 60 houses and made 240 people homeless.

The fires, which broke out in dry weather and were fanned by high winds *on* Wednesday, were yesterday still burning in five areas of northern Honshu, Japan's main island.

Six people were injured and 240 made homeless, mainly in the Pacific coast city of Kuji in Iware prefecture, and in districts near Sendai city in Miyagi prefecture.

On Wednesday night, about 1,000 people were evacuated from Kuji and a town nearby when the wind drove the flames close to their homes.

About two dozen fires broke out in mountainous northern Honshu on Wednesday. One began as a controlled burning-off operation by woodmen, but sudden high winds turned it into a blaze.

● YOKOHAMA: Seaborne traffic in Yokohama port, one of the world's busiest, was halted for more that two hours yesterday after a tanker collision caused highly inflammable naphtha to leak into the water, Reuter reports.

Traffic in Yokohama port resumed after most of the leaked naphtha had vaporized, it said. The chemical tanker was carrying 1,276 kilolitres of naphtha.

Police save Valencia leader from lynch mob

From Harry Debelius Madrid

Hundreds of policemen took part in the rescue of the battered and bruised Señor Joan Lerma, the Chief Minister of the Valencia Region's home-rule government, from a lynch-minded mob that surrounded a cinema where the Socialist politician was to have delivered a campaign speech.

According to reports reaching here yesterday, Señor Lerma was insulted on Wednesday night by a crowd estimated by the police at between 6,000 and *7,000, outside the cinema in the* steel town of Sagunto, near Valencia. It is here that the Government plans to close down part of the money-losing, state-owned Altos Hornos del Mediterraneo mill.

The incident was the most serious so far since the campaign began for nationwide municipal elections and some regional elections to be held on Sunday week.

As the crowd moved in and attacked Señor Lerma, his bodyguards and the policemen on duty surrounded him and moved into the relative safety of the cinema.

Two shots were reported to have been fired in the scuffle but no one was hurt.

Members of the Socialist Youth Movement blamed the violence on the Communist Workers' Commissions, the Communist Party and the Conservative *Popular* Alliance.

Clash of ideologies

Warsaw's liberals take on hardliners

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

A party meeting, writes the Soviet satirist Vladimir Voinovich, is an arrangement whereby a large number of people gather together, some to say what they really do not think, some not to say what they really do.

And such, we can safely predict, will be the course of affairs at the long-awaited plenary session of Poland's Communist Party Central Committee, due to begin in the next few weeks.

The real battle is being fought now, *in the factories* and the press, with a remarkable venom. The subject of the session is ideology: that is, the continued relevance of Marxism-Leninism to the problems facing Poland. Not, one might think, a subject that need detain anybody for very long.

It is possible, indeed customary, to reduce the protagonists in this conflict to those Marxists committed to more or less radical economic reform accompanied by much milder political adjustments (liberals), and those dogmatic Marxists whose suspicion of change overrides even their disapproval of the status quo (hardliners).

The reason that this conflict has more than theatrical quality is the choice of weapons, with the hardliners building up support by preying on the fears of workers who have seen their standard of living collapse in the past year.

The Government, with the support of the liberals, is trying to introduce an economic reform which decentralizes some parts of the economy, giving management more initiative and workers more say in production. But at the same time it is trying to pull the country out of crisis.

These are two separate processes, but in the imagination of many workers they have fused into one. Reform is being identified with unrewarded sacrifice.

The dogmatic Marxists have scented the discontent, voiced loudly enough at a recent meeting between *2,000* workers and General Jaruzelski, and are representing themselves as the true standard-bearers of the working class. This may be sincerely meant but it is, say the liberals, undermining popular confidence in reform in the very place it counts – the factory.

The liberals have hit back from three different directions. Colonel Stanislaw Kwiatkowski, who heads the Government's new public opinion research centre, wrote recently that the opposition in Poland – that is, the Solidarity underground – was largely intellectual and should be dealt with accordingly. The Government should be trying to win the support of the populace and thus isolate the intellectuals, rather than hit them over the head, a policy much favoured by the hardliners, or the "ideological gendarmerie", as he calls them.

The second line comes from Mr Ludvik Krasucki, an editor of the ideological journal *Nowe Drogi*. Writing in the weekly *Polityka, he makes clear that* he considers the hardliners and their "populist demagogy" as more of a threat to the policies of General Jaruzelski than those who quietly sympathize with Solidarity.

The third, more scholarly, line of attack comes from Mr Wladyslaw Markiewicz, a noted professor of sociology, who in a recent interview indicated that the sectional loyalty of the *hardliners*, above all to *the* party bureaucrats most threatened by reform, had blinded them to the reality that Socialism can be creatively reformed.

It remains to be seen whether this unusually sharp in-fighting will lead to adjustments

Most liberals argue that General Jaruzelski is firmly in the saddle and can ride out a bout of criticism, although they admit that the hardliners will never be stamped out.

The hardliners argue, in the jargon of child psychology, that they are misunderstood: they are not pushing to take over power, or sabotage policies. They simply believe that more rather than less Socialism is what will solve *Poland's* internal problems.

US broadcasts 'slanderous'

Warsaw (NYT, AFP) – The Polish Government *told* the US yesterday that American radio broadcasts to Poland were aggressive and slanderous. A formal protest, made public by the PAP news agency, said Polish-language broadcasts by the Voice of America and by Radio Free Europe were intended to destabilize the situation in Poland.

The Polish Foreign Ministry has also closed the American library in Warsaw for showing films and television programmes defaming the Polish Government.

Swedes launch protest over Baltic crackdown

From Christopher Mosey, Stockholm

Sweden yesterday launched a fresh protest against the Soviet Union, this time over a crackdown by the authorities in the Baltic republics of Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia.

In a toughly-worded statement sent to all foreign journalists in Stockholm, the Foreign Minister, Mr Lennart Bodstrom, referred to a recent wave of arrests in the Baltic states and said Sweden was prepared to raise the matter before the United Nations Commission for Human Rights.

Coming immediately after the recall of the Swedish Ambassador from Moscow and the public denouncement of Soviet submarine incursions into Swedish waters, the statement has done nothing to improve deteriorating Swedish-Soviet relations.

Sweden also announced yesterday that it would not be attending the May Day parade in Moscow's Red Square. There was jubilation among MPs over the cancellation of a visit to *Moscow* by Danish Social Democrats in protest at Soviet submarine violations.

These developments seem to be part of a drive by Mr Olof Palme's Social Democratic Government to counter allegations in Western diplomatic circles that Sweden is "soft" on communist abuse of power and that the country's traditional policy of armed neutrality leans too far east.

Mr Bodstrom said several reports have been received recently which point to a general intensification of controls in the *Baltic states*.

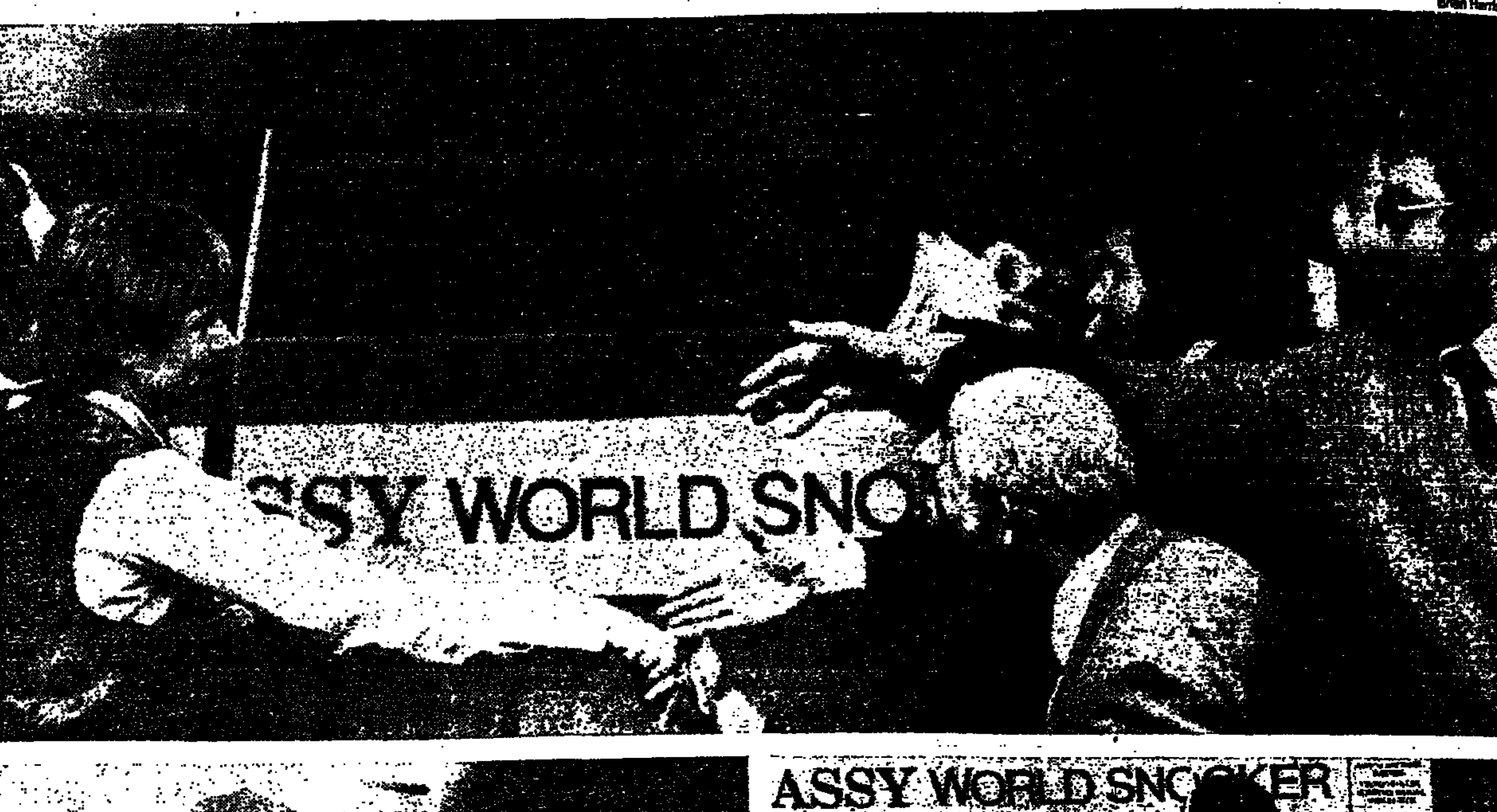
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SPECTRUM

Snooker changed when it was plucked from the clubs and reset on the living-room television. Now it faces new pressures. As the world championship reaches a climax, fortunes are at stake

Lords of the baize battlefield

By Neil Lyndon





ASSY WORLD SNOOKER

The faces of fate: above, Alex Higgins, the people's champion, acknowledges their adoration; below left, Barry Hearn (left) with his defeated protégé Tony Meo (centre); below right, Bill Werbeniuk resigns himself to the force of the hurricane

The manager can play the game. "Not like these guys. I mean, I'm not very good. Except when I play for money. Then I'm very hard to beat. For bets, you know, in billiard halls. I love that."

"Is the betting serious?"

"Depends if you call three or four thousand serious."

"Don't you?"

"No."

The manager is very prosperous. In drizzly Sheffield, his fair face is ruddy with costly tan. His suit is richly heavy and hangs smooth to the millimetre. His silk tie, too new to make a tight knot, is a thirty-note touch. He recently sold his business. "I got greedy, I couldn't resist." The buyers paid him millions. He owned 16 snooker halls in Romford and the eastern outskirts of London. He was in it for ten years, but "it's a very physical business, the halls." Now Barry Hearn is managing the affairs of Steve Davis, Tony Meo and Terry Griffiths because "it's fun", he says, because "we have a fabulous time" and because "they're going to gross a million quid this year. That's fabulous, isn't it?"

As the comet snooker accelerates into a measureless stratosphere of riches, many of its desperate hangers-on are unhappy about the speeding changes they witness, and they pine for the vanished innocence in which they were more comfortable. Middle-aged men in shabby suits could often be overheard in Sheffield last week, backstage at the Crucible, condoling with each other and saying, "All the pleasure's gone, hasn't it? It's all so serious now. There's too much money involved." It is a familiar lament, which also rises from the sad amateurs who can no longer control, with unquestioned authority, the purse-strings of golf, tennis, cricket and athletics.

Barry Hearn is sitting very comfortably on the comet, as much a pilot as a passenger, personifying snooker's new order. Managing Steve Davis's earnings, he has recently bought land in Scotland and buildings in Bond Street. "You're talking about major investments there. I think it's pathetic when a top sportsman says it's the height of his ambition to own a pub." Much of the income of Hearn's players derives from special appearances and commercial endorsements: clothing and "male perfumes" are about to appear, bearing their names. "We don't do the clubs much any more. They can't afford us. The game's had about as much exposure in this country as it can take. We're interested in developments overseas now. We went to Bangkok with Steve Davis and they went mad there. Mad. There was 40 foot high posters of Davis all over Bangkok. It was like being in Romford High Street."

The manager is enjoying himself no end. "Always have. I love it. I know it sounds like *All Our Yesterdays*, but it was only a few years ago that we were going up and down the motorway for 25 quid for Steve Davis to play in clubs. I had to bet. It was the only way we could cover our expenses. Now he's going to be a millionaire many times over." Hearn thinks that the growth of snooker in this country will continue. "Women," he says. "Women. They're only just coming into it. There's another 50 per cent of the market to go."

The sponsor is contented; the old hand is less happy

The sponsor is contented, too. Don Whiting, sponsored events executive of Imperial Tobacco, is confident that a more than adequate return is accruing to Embassy cigarettes for its outlay on the snooker world championship. This year, Embassy are putting up £135,000 in prize money and a further unspecified amount for the organisation of the tournament (some part of which will be accounted for by a press room lavishly supplied with free food and drink and telephones, dished out by handsome women all dressed in cigarette packet colours). Whiting hectically denies that Embassy's cause is helped by the players' furious smoking. "Red herring," he says. "We also sponsor events like rugby league and opera where the participants can't be seen smoking." Red herring.

The sponsor is delighted that the growing wealth of the game is attracting many new players, "expanding the pool of professionals". The old hand is less happy. Ray Reardon says: "People are coming into the game solely for the money today. They win a game at Pontin's and they want to turn professional. Where's the love of the game?"

Reardon, now 50, has been a professional for 30 years. "There was no money in it then. It was all in the clubs. But you had your social life and you looked after your opponent. I loved it. I still do. I'll still do the clubs. I'm negotiable."

The old hand says that one aspect of snooker has not changed. "Snooker players are a breed apart. They're not completely themselves when they're not playing. See, when I get it right and I'm in charge of myself, then I'm unbeatable and I'm complete. Sometimes I go out there and I don't know what I'm doing or who I am. But I'm a Jekyll and Hyde and I can't control it; never have been able to. I wish I could be like Steve Davis. I'd be unstoppable, incomparable, if I was like him."

Two of the men apart are at the table, a fat man and a thin man. Bill Werbeniuk flops on to the table to make a shot and struggles to rise like a bull seal stranded on a rock. Alex Higgins is a thin spring wired to highest tension. He starts and quivers at any noise in the auditorium. Knots and ganglia of nerves tremble in his face as he sits between breaks, far gone in wild dialogue between the sides of himself.

Both the fat man and the thin man are very angry with the press. After one of their quarter-final sessions, Higgins hurtles through the backstage area aiming an obscenity at a reporter and withdrawing to his dressing room. Werbeniuk has a stand-up row in the corridor with reporters from popular papers to whom he will not speak, he says, unless they give him a letter undertaking to print what he says, rather than what they invent. He will talk to *The Times*.

Werbeniuk says that "this game of snooker that I'm participating in and which I love" is being "called down" by the popular papers and his pleasure is being spoiled. If he can't continue to enjoy the game, he says, he will leave it: "I've already turned down two opportunities to get extremely rich through business outside snooker and I can get others." The game, he says, is suffering from its growth and from greed. "Some of the players haven't realised that there's very little difference, after tax, between earning £200,000 and £400,000 and they're rushing up and down the country like yo-yos doing exhibitions and appearances when they should be practising." As he is speaking, the door opens and one of the spurned reporters reappears to plead: "Forget about the mood merchants, Bill. Talk to the regular lads. You'll be sorry if you don't." Werbeniuk looks fierce. "I don't want to talk about it."

A white Rolls Royce chauffered by a boy in liveried grey awaits Werbeniuk at the stage-door. He stands by Blithe Spirit to pose for photographs, an Arbuckle grandee in his splendour, with children grimacing into the camera behind and a mad old man in a blue woolly hat making cueing gestures beside him.

In the press room, the unblinkingly confident Steve Davis is giving literature lessons: "If you can keep your head while all about you is crumbling – that's a classic from a book." The gentlemen of letters look uneasy. "I think that's a misinterpretation, Steve," says one. "Well, let's hope I can go on misinterpreting through the next two rounds."

Absent from all public discusssion is the snooker-hall scruff, the player himself. Davis and Werbeniuk may become nabobs of property and finance but Higgins will remain the urchin forever unreformed. By no means can he be anything but himself, neither more nor less than a snooker-player. His attempts to dandify himself in spats and silks to match the rich sartorial exactness of young contenders like Tony Meo and Tony Knowles will always be thwarted by a body like a bag of sticks and an intensity of mental activity which mocks studied vanities of dress.

Higgins will remain the urchin, forever unreformed

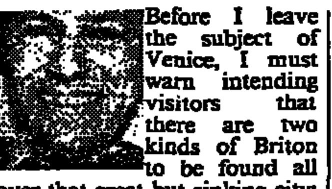
Like Bobby Fischer, Higgins is so engrossed in the mental exactions of his play that he can stand no interruption to the urgent chatter of his thoughts, so referees and reporters and noisy spectators are all intolerable intrusions to him. The table becomes more than a puzzle of points as he glares and frets upon it: the pattern of coloured balls turns into an analogue of his own mind and in playing snooker he is completely playing himself. He is the most cerebral of all players, indifferent to the remorseless tortures of drink and nicotine with which he batters his body.

Who was the television producer or director who saw, more than a decade ago, that snooker was perfectly designed for the aesthetics and the economics of the medium? Three studio cameras cut round the table with a limitless variety of shots; there are only two characters and a referee to pay; and a tight, intimate drama of competition is the focus. Pretty, too, with all those colours. He deserves a royalty from snooker. From *Pot Black* has grown a sporting industry which is the envy even of the mighty money-makers of tennis and golf and which perfectly embodies the presiding principle which applies equally to motor-racing and boxing and tennis: the television audience is all; the suckers who go to sit and watch are merely fodder for the cameras. Dummies and taped crowd noises would do as well.

Snooker is not a sport for a large crowd of spectators and never was: it only works for a gathering of intimates, grouped closely around the table, squinting at the angles over the players' shoulders and making side bets on every play. The intimates gathered around the tables of the World Professional Snooker Championship are the millions of members of the television audience, for theirs is the magnified and close up view that every punter covets. The seated audience is an attendant cast of extras, waiting upon the rising and falling of princes who cue for matchless prizes. A sennet; loud noises off; enter two lords, left and right; they play for the championship of the world.

Where Ruskin complained of the view of Browning

MOREOVER . . . Miles Kington



Before I leave the subject of Venice, I must warn intending visitors that there are two kinds of Briton to be found all over that great but sinking city: package tourists and people writing books about the place. I would guess that the latter is the bigger group. Even in one week I met authors doing research for the following titles:-

The Washing Lines of Venice.
The Cats of Venice.
Vanished Islands of Venice.
Places Where Ruskin Stayed.
Places Where Byron Didn't Stay.

Until these are written, most tourists make do with copies of either James Morris's *Venice* or J. G. Links's *Venice for Pleasure*, both excellent. You can tell they are excellent from the quotes on the covers. Morris's book is "the best modern book about a city I have read" (Geoffrey Grigson). Links's is "one of the most delightful and original guides ever written about the city - any city, for that matter", according to no less a man than James Morris. Not to be outdone, Bernard Levin calls it "not only the best guide-book to that city ever written, but the best guide-book to any city ever written."

Perhaps feeling left out of things, Links himself on p. 95 of his book calls James Morris "by far the city's best twentieth-century chronicler". Levin does not seem to have written a book about Venice for Links to praise, but undaunted he recommends on p. 151 the "Vecia Cavana, favourite Venetian restaurant of that well-known gourmet, Mr Bernard Levin". As I said, Britons in Venice are either package tourists or authors, and it is hard to say which is the tighter-knit group.

This may explain why books on Venice tend to treat buildings as important only if they have been visited by English writers. Ruskin stayed here, but did not like the view, is one famous comment. Byron first stayed here in Venice, is another, and seduced his landlord's wife. Browning did a lot of staying, died here as well. Wagner moved from the gloomy Danieli hotel to the Palazzo Giustinian, where he cheered himself up by writing *Tristan*.

As we have been told so often, Venice is a very homogeneous city, which is another way of saying that all the streets are more or less the same, so I hit on an ingenious idea for not writing a book about Venice myself. All the traveller needs is one sheet of paper to hold and read as walks round, to describe everywhere. Here it is.

★

On your right, notice a large palazzo. Palazzo is the Italian word for an otherwise undistinguished house in which a famous English writer has stayed. Here Ruskin stayed for a while, though he left after complaining of the view of Browning opposite.

Round the corner we will find a charming bridge, on which James Morris once stopped a passer-by to ask him for the name of a good restaurant. The good-natured stranger, who was none other than Bernard Levin, tipped the Vacia Cavana, and even gave him several cards for the place, recommending the spaghetti con cozze.

The canel which passes under the bridge was the scene of a strange naval disaster in the 1870s when Mr Wagner's grand piano, being transported from the Danieli Hotel, broke loose and sank. It blocked shipping for eight months; after it had been raised Browning moved into it for a short while.

Pass on to No 3984, which was a convent until the early nineteenth century, but which was closed down after Byron had visited it and seduced most of the occupants. It is now a small museum dedicated to the memory of the Ruskins' dog, though it is not listed in any guide book, perhaps because it has not been found open since 1927.

The next church is known to the locals as La Chiesa di San Roberto, after Browning who lived there briefly but had to leave after Ruskin (but not Wagner) complained about the noisy late parties. There is a pleasing portrait of Santa Camilla, with which Lord Byron is said to have fallen in love for a while, and a leaflet in English which was described by Bernard Levin, or perhaps J. G. Links, as the best guide to any church in Venice, or indeed the world.

Passing the next canel, along which Lord Byron swam in his heroic swim across Venice, we come to the palazzo in which Wagner wrote his tragic opera Ruskin.

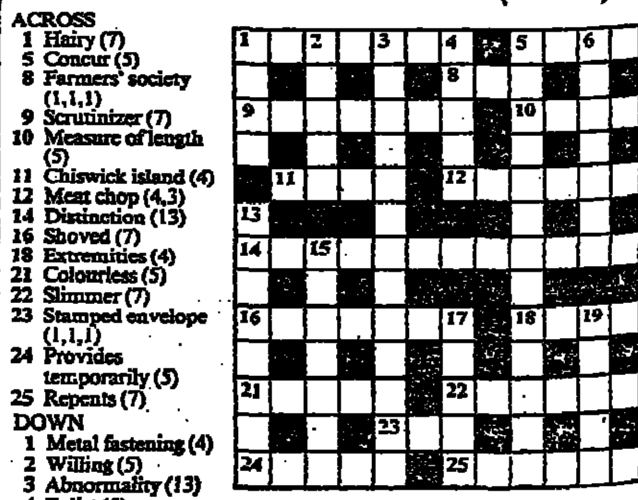
Conclude with a refreshing cup of coffee at the Bar di Giacomo Maurizio, named after James Morris but now renamed the Giannina Maurizio.

Next week in Spectrum

Monday: How Gorky Park was transplanted toScandinavia

Tuesday and Wednesday: The heroin epidemic. Addiction figures are rising throughout Britain, thanks to cut-price imports from the Golden Crescent.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 49)



ACROSS
1 Hairy (7)
5 Concur (5)
8 Farmers' society (1,1,1)
9 Scrutinizer (7)
10 Measure of length (5)
11 Chiswick island (4)
12 Meat chop (4,3)
14 Distinction (13)
16 Shoved (7)
18 Extremities (4)
21 Colourless (5)
22 Slimmer (7)
23 Stamped envelope (1,1,1)
24 Provides temporarily (5)
25 Repents (7)

DOWN
1 Metal fastening (4)
2 Willing (5)
3 Abnormality (13)
4 Enlist (5)
5 Selling to bidders (13)
6 Italian stream (7)
7 Given the right (8)
13 Avoidance (8)
15 Ardent love (7)
17 Discourage (5)
19 Slow learner (5)
20 Malayan knife (4)

SOLUTION TO No 48
ACROSS: 1 Cracks 5 Rictus 8 IRA 9 Mosaic 10 Dismal 11 Dyak 12 Barracks 13 Astray 15 Parade 17 Macaroni 20 Pump 22 Adroit 23 Bustle 24 Dal 25 Dynamo 26 Emetic
DOWN: 2 Roomy 3 Chalker 4 Sickbay 5 Radar 6 Costa 7 Unasked 14 Stand by 15 Pliable 16 Riposte 18 Aroma 19 Outdo 21 Multi
(Solution to No 49 on Monday)
Recommended dictionary is the New Collins Concise English

FRIDAY PAGE

Gillian Moore finds more to be collected than the auctioneer knows



The romantic objects of art's desire

"This is me doing something with my life." The handsome middle-aged woman who had enrolled on Sotheby's Collectors' Week was a newcomer to the nuances of satinwood commodes and Japanese ivories. After 20 years of marriage to a Scottish farmer she is a fine judge of a Friesian cow or a collie, but with a divorce behind her and a new home in Kentish commuterland, those skills no longer count. Nobody wants to employ a woman in her forties without formal qualifications. The man she lives with wants to marry her but she resists being hustled willy-nilly into a second mistake. She discovered the pleasures of collecting last December when she fell in love with a Biedermeyer mirror in an antique shop and found herself saying: "I want that. Why shouldn't I have it?" From that moment, she pinned her hopes for a new start on antiques.

The first day of the course exploded her optimism. The experts' knowledge oppressed her. The prices they bandied about outraged her. Worse, when she fished out the snapshots of her new purchases they shook their heads disapprovingly. But by the end of the week she was buoyant again. Escaping from the claustrophobia of her emotional problems to meet new people had doubled her confidence.

Maybe the experts could summon more facts, but her taste, she had decided, was as valid as theirs. She knows now that she is not too old to acquire a new talent and she is ready to try a spot of dealing. Her parting words: "I've come alive".

The agents of this revival were 10 of Sotheby's auction room experts who scampered through their specialities and discussed objects coming up for sale. Sotheby's run their Collector's Week four times a year as a public relations exercise to encourage new customers into the saleroom. It is very effective, they say, but it makes virtually no profit and might be at risk under a sterner new regime. All the same, at £150 it is no great bargain and the most prominent participants were wealthy collectors from Belgium, Singapore and America who were boning up for forthcoming sales.

Other women had come for less mercenary reasons. One was poised to direct her abundant energy to study after years of child-rearing and dutifully accompanying her husband on his business trips. She had already thrown herself into flower arranging, mastered it and had her judge's certificate. Now she needed stronger meat. Another had escaped her teenage children and the kitchen stove to hover as near as she dared to the glitter of the London art world.

A third was an inveterate course taker, a single woman in her late thirties who had whiled away innumerable weekends and evenings on everything from bridge to wine. There were, incidentally, a couple of men, but one was a dealer and the other had vanished by Monday afternoon.

The mixed bunch of heiresses, housewives and lonely-hearts being titillated with desirable objects by Sotheby's are just the top end of a booming leisure industry.

NADFAS, the National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts Societies, occupies the middle range. Founded in 1968, it already boasts 27,500 members and is still opening about 10 new branches a year. The mass market for instant culture is served by the National Trust Centres, independent local supporters' clubs for the National Trust, which began in a small way in 1948, started mushrooming in the 1970s, and now have 100,000 members between them. Both NADFAS and the National Trust Centres put on lectures and study days on art and antiques, and organize guided trips and voluntary work.

So who is consuming all this culture? The short answer is women, every time.

NADFAS was founded by and for women and in the early years meetings were generally held during the day. Although men are admitted and meetings now often take place in the evening, males still make up only 5 per cent of the membership. The National Trust Centres are a little more balanced, with membership varying from 60 per cent to 90 per cent female according to the locality.

The official programme of the course or the arts society is rarely what interests people most. They go along because their friends are doing it, because they enjoy dressing up for candle-lit receptions, because there is a waiting list, or because they have no better excuse for taking a breather from their families. Most often of all, they do it because they are lonely.

Not that they would admit to such a thing, at least not at first. A passion for art was always the official reason for being there, although few could remember quite when the spark was lit.

The officials of NADFAS and the National Trust Centres are equally disinclined to discuss people's motives for belonging, and naturally resist labelling themselves social services. There is always a pause and a new, reluctant tone when they allow themselves to admit that, yes, there are members for whom this is almost the only chance to see new faces.

Little things can make or break a weekend away for an elderly single woman – things like whether she is obliged to share a room with somebody else. The National Trust centres make a point of arranging trips only to places where they can accommodate single people in single rooms.

The big hotels that put on cultural events have a different formula for success. Their aim is to make the art so innocuous that you can even bring your husband along if you have one. When the Imperial at Torquay gets Arthur Negus down for an antiques weekend it wads the lectures between so many champagne receptions and gastronomic dinners that even the philistines could doze through them painlessly.

I went on a weekend of tours round country houses offered by the Grosvenor in Chester, along with two retired couples who wanted to see a fresh bit of countryside, a quiet widow and a pair of middle-aged newly-weds who were using the occasion to let off some steam.

At our communal dinner table the husband, barely out of earshot of his wife, gave his end of the table a lurid account of what she could expect if he ever caught her being unfaithful. Next day discretion returned and we concentrated on spying on the owners of the country houses, their dogs and their Sunday lunches, all of which afforded richer entertainment than their pictures and their Persian carpets.

One might have expected a more committed class of person to turn up in Worthing at one of the summer porcelain seminars arranged by Geoffrey Godden, chinaman and author of standard works in his field. And indeed the audience on my weekend included some dealers and serious collectors. But my neighbour was an elderly widow who confided that she had come to lessen the disppointment of two puppies she had bought not being delivered on the day they had been promised. She liked china, she often bought a piece as a souvenir when she went on holiday, and she had come with a friend a few months before to another of Godden's seminars.

She had been nervous of coming this time on her own in case nobody spoke to her. In the event, she managed to talk to strangers and enjoy herself; Godden is wise enough to lay on refreshments at frequent intervals to get the social wheels turning.

If women were filling themselves with art just for the sake of the company, one would feel desperately sorry for them sitting through all those words and slides in order to arrive at the coffee break. They must genuinely like what they are learning, though, otherwise they would have stayed with the ladies' luncheon club and the charity jumble sales. In entertaining themselves, they are keeping a great many museum curators and junior auctioneers in pocket money, even though the successes – and the boom in all these courses – must be rated more in terms of happy exchanges than of uplifted minds.

MEDICAL BRIEFING

Persuasion at a premium



Persuading parents to have their children immunized against diphtheria, polio and tetanus has become increasingly difficult since the scare over the safety of the whooping cough vaccine. But just because there are fewer cases of these diseases now does not mean that the diseases have disappeared – the cases of diphtheria in London last year illustrate the point.

In America it is compulsory for all school children to be vaccinated – an approach that would be unlikely to make any headway in this country.

Dr Joginder Kumar Anand, district community physician in Peterborough, has come up with a novel suggestion for persuading parents. Writing in the *British Medical Journal* last week he suggests a £5 premium bond should be offered to all children who have a complete course and a £15 bond to every girl leaving school who is vaccinated against German measles.

Dr Anand admits the scheme would cost money but, he argues, there would presumably be savings in caring for ill and disabled children.

Drink deterrent



Doctors in Dundee are concerned that an initiative from the Department of Transport to track down problem drinkers who commit more than one drink/driving offence may backfire because the department's selection test is too arbitrary.

The department intends to look into the drinking habits of drivers who are found to have 200mg to 100ml of alcohol in the blood on two occasions in a ten-year period.

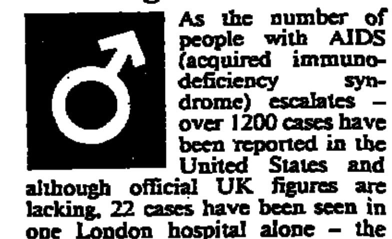
Doctors working on the Tayside Safe Driving Project who have just published their own results in the British Medical Journal *say that the 200mg to 100ml figure is arbitrary and does not really identify those drivers at risk – at two and half times the legal limit for drinking and driving it accounts for only 5 per cent of all drink/driving offenders.*

Using a more sensitive biochemical test the Tayside doctors have revealed, by taking two blood tests at a nine-month interval, that as many as a third of all drivers have a long-term drink problem – a much higher incidence of heavy drinking than in the general population. They also discovered a conviction does not deter the majority of people from drinking again.

The intention of the Department of Transport's initiative would be to rehabilitate problem drinkers: they would be banned from driving for three years and they would then have to prove they had overcome their drinking problems. Dr James Dunbar, who took part in the Tayside survey, believes it would be relatively easy for barred drink/drivers to mislead the court into believing they had controlled their drinking using the Department of Transport's criteria.

The biochemical test can reveal immediately whether a driver has stopped drinking or not.

Accusing Africa



As the number of people with AIDS (acquired immunodeficiency syndrome) escalates – over 1200 cases have been reported in the United States and although official UK figures are lacking, 22 cases have been seen in one London hospital alone – the heat is on for epidemiologists to find the cause.

As a consequence the traditional vehicle of medical debate – the letters pages of the learned journals – have been ringing with ideas. No fewer than five letters to the *Lancet* discussed the problem last week.

Three of them pointed an accusing finger at Africa where a condition similar to AIDS – depressed immune defences which lay the sufferer open to infections and cancers – is endemic.

The suggestion is that the American AIDS epidemic has suddenly developed because a pathogen, probably a virus, common to other parts of the world has got into a very vulnerable and promiscuous population – most AIDS patients so far have been homosexuals.

AIDS in a Danish surgeon working in Zaire and Zairian woman and her children are noted in the letters. Doctors at the Harvard School of Public Health point out that AIDS first appeared in Haitians (Haiti is a favourite holiday venue for American "gays") in 1979, the same year that African Swine Fever virus hit the island. Possibly a modification of that virus is the culprit, they suggest.

Diabetics at risk

The economic squeeze on the NHS has made the United Kingdom one of the worst places in Europe to be a diabetic with kidney disease.

A third of Britain's 250,000 diabetics who need daily insulin injections to keep them alive will develop kidney problems later in life. Ten years ago few anywhere in Europe would have been treated because doctors doubted that therapy would do any good. Now, however, they acknowledge its benefits and, according to the latest statistics from the European Dialysis and Transplant Association – which keeps tabs on all kidney patients – the number of European diabetics receiving a kidney transplant or dialysis has shot up twentyfold since 1976.

Not so in the UK. In the five years from 1976 there was only a threefold increase in the number of diabetics offered help. In 1981 still only 5 per cent of new kidney patients were diabetics, which contrasts sharply with the record in Scandinavia where the figure is nearly 19 per cent.

But for a new dialysis technique the situation in Britain might have been even worse. Nowadays 50 per cent of diabetics with renal failure are put on to continuous ambulatory peritoneal dialysis. With this technique sufferers regularly put into their body cavity a special fluid which draws poisons out of the blood stream. The method is cheap because it can be done at home.

Mystery ingredient



The Nigerian equivalent of the hamburger, *suya*, is causing alarm to doctors in Lagos because a number of people are suffering from a peculiar form of anaemia and jaundice after eating it.

Suya is a popular barbecued beefsteak sold in roadside stalls. Meat covered with a red powder which turns brown on cooking seems to be the culprit and the first ill effects occur a couple of days after eating it.

It is not known what goes into the powder – red *suya* has been in existence for many years – but there could be a new ingredient because patients with anaemic symptoms have been discovered only in the last couple of years.

The doctors who have traced the illness back to *suya* have written to the *Lancet* drawing the attention of the medical profession world wide to the puzzling diagnosis.

Their concern is because sufferers have nearly all bought their red *suya* in Shagamu – a crossroads town near Lagos airport. One patient has already been discovered in London.

Olivia Timbs and Lorraine Fraser

Olivia Timbs is editor of Med-economics *and Lorraine Fraser is science editor of* General Practitioner.

Shirley Lowe meets Twiggy as she begins the beguine on Broadway

It's like Fred and Ginger all over again . . . innit?

Back in 1967, when she was 17, Twiggy made a film called *Twiggy in New York* to promote a range of clothes bearing her name: "Oi cut this fringe meself," she told the crowd who admired her Minnehaha mini and nearly ethnic headband. A man on the pavement was unimpressed: "She'll last a couple of weeks," he said.

Twiggy is now back in New York and on Sunday she opens on Broadway singing and dancing like Ginger to Tommy Tune's Fred in a remake and rewrite of Gershwin's *Funny Girl*, retitled *My One and Only*. The Americans adore her – no mean achievement in a culture obsessed with the Dolly Parton silhouette – and at every preview they stop the show and applaud wildly as she slips onto the stage in clinging white satin.

Twiggy at 33 is prettier than ever, and a more durable product than anyone in the '60s would have predicted. In fact, although she was professionally packaged and presented to the public by her ex-boyfriend and agent Justin de Villeneuve (Michael Davies for short) Twiggy turns out to be not a showbiz product at all but a thoroughly nice girl with the guts and go and good looks to stretch a rather small talent as far as the star's dressing room.

That is where I found her, surrounded by pale pink flower-patterned Laura Ashley cushions and dozens of pictures of her four-year-old daughter, Carly – "The most important thing in my life."

Twiggy has never been much of a talker. "Oi like it 'ere," she announced at one press conference soon after she arrived. Pressed for her reasons, she turned to Justin: "What do oi like?" What she says is often unmemorable but her way of saying it is irresistibly appealing, which is probably why interviewers so often quote her "innits" and north London 'naow' vowel sounds.

She still has the accent, and when she is supposed to be speaking terribly posh on stage it tends to slip out: "Yer've gotta be *joking!*" Everything in her life, says Twiggy, has just sort of happened to her. "It's like I never planned anything. I was very content, very happy being a model. It was marvellous, really. I was making all that money and then, one day, I was having dinner with my mate, Ken Russell, when I happened to say I had seen *The Boyfriend* and somebody had suggested I ought to do a film of it. He said: 'Oh great. I'll direct it'."



Twiggy with top hat, tails and Tommy Tune

So, after MGM, who owned the story, had had a heart attack about Twiggy starring in their film – "They didn't know whether I could dance and sing or not and neither did I" – she made *The Boyfriend* and that's where she got to know Tommy Tune, the dancer/actor/choreographer/director/Tony award winner who put the new show together.

"I came out to the States because I was doing a film called *W* – and that's how I met Michael (she married American actor Michael Whitney six years ago) and *he* kept on going on at me to do Liza in *Pygmalion* before I was too old, or I wouldn't have done that, either."

The Whitneys were moving back to Britain from Los Angeles when all this happened and, although Twiggy is honoured to be on Broadway – "It's a giant step forward for me" – it has postponed the house in the country just outside London which, she believes, is the ideal place to bring up a child. At the moment, they are living in a rented apartment in New York; Carly goes to a very good Montessori school nearby and a friend of Twiggy's from Los Angeles is looking after her.

She hated almost everything about LA. "You can't go for a walk and even the flowers aren't real. It's a bloody desert, that's what it is, and people have built a city there." Most of all she hated their values: "Everything is judged by youth and beauty and success and they'd stab their best friend in the back for a deal. Well that's *awful*. Honesty and integrity mean nothing and the kids in LA are brought up in this false world and they're all screwed up. I wouldn't let a child grow up there for anything."

Having Carly, she says, has changed her way of thinking completely. "The first thing you think about when you wake up is your child, and it's the last thing you think about when you go to sleep. Sometimes, I wake in the night and think: 'What will it be like for her?' Now I know why my mother worried all the time. I mean, I love Michael very much but he's mad about riding and he keeps talking about getting Carly on to a horse. *Carly . . . on a horse!*" Her eyes widen with horror.

She refuses now to be photographed with Carly. "I grew up in Neasden, an ordinary London suburb and, even though I was spoiled to death and had everything I wanted, Carly obviously lives a very different life. Oh, I'm so proud of her, I'd love to show her off, but I don't think it would be good for her".

It can't be easy being married to such a recognizable celebrity and there have been reports from Hollywood that Michael, who is 15 years older than Twiggy, would prefer to be the main breadwinner.

"I don't think he really minds me being more famous that him because, after all, I was when I met him. But, there are those awful people who are all over you and ignore the person you're with. Well I think that's just *rude* and that's one of the reasons we don't go out to parties much."

Another reason is that Twiggy, like most successful people, truly enjoys work more than play.

She rehearsed the dance routines for eight hours daily before the show opened and is touchingly pleased with the gift of a silver mirror which belonged to Adele Astaire, who starred and danced in the original with brother Fred in 1927. "Adele Astaire," breathes Twiggy. "Why, she's practically my *idol*."

Another thrill came her way at a preview. "I'd just taken Carly to the loo off my dressing room – she'd had all that ice cream and drinks and that – and when I came back, there was Lucille Ball. I couldn't believe it. I just gazed at her and I must have seemed daft, I'm sure. But she loved the show".

Twiggy has been a headlining success ever since she faced the camera 18 years ago to become the world's first child model celebrity. She says she has changed ("I've grown up, got wiser, I hope. I probably don't trust people as much as I used to") but her enduring and endearing quality is that she still acts more like a fan than a top model, a film star or the lead in a Broadway extravaganza.



THE TIMES DIARY

Heads I win . . .

David Irving, the right-wing historian who has been decrying the Hitler Diaries as fakes, is at the same time claiming a 10 per cent commission from *The Sunday Times* for, he says, having provided the information and leads. Irving contacted *The Sunday Times* in December, offering his information on condition that if the paper paid for serialization or digest rights to the Diaries he should be granted commission. He suggested 10 per cent, and claims now that in the "extensive oral communications" which followed *The Sunday Times* did not query this figure. Magnus Linklater of *The Sunday Times*, who spoke with Irving, says their last conversation some weeks ago revealed that Irving by then believed the papers he had been looking at were fakes. "Our purchase of the Hitler Diaries owes nothing to Irving and was negotiated without help from or reference to him", Linklater adds.

Forked tongue

A *Times* man who was in Berlin in 1945 retrieved a painting signed by Adolf Hitler from the ruins of the bunker. He took it, and on his way out met an American sergeant whose prize was cutlery marked "A.H.". They compared booty and the sergeant so coveted the painting that our man, judging the spoons and forks the better bet, agreed to swop. A few days later he found the cutlery had come from the Adlon Hotel.

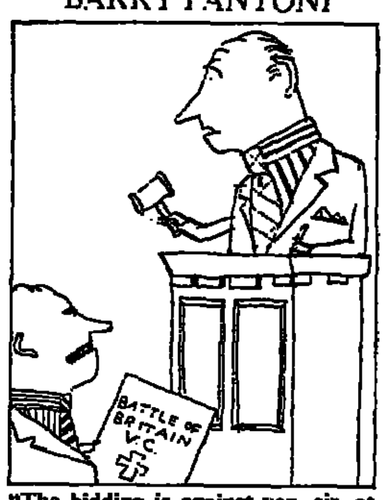
House whine

Clement Freud has tabled an early day motion deploring the "surreptitious means by which mediocre South African wine has been sneaked into the cellars of the House" and noting "the reticence with which it is being marketed". The South African wines, he says, "are being peddled like dirty postcards. They do not appear on the refreshment department's wine list. When they are sold it is like someone shuffling up and saying: 'Do you want my sister?' "

Rod of irony

News that the Department of Education is considering giving parents the right to veto the corporal punishment of children in state schools lends irony to a panegyric of Sir Keith Joseph in the latest *Newsline*, the official Tory paper. In an article headlined "Discipline: Teachers cane Labour," Sir Keith is praised for refusing to bow to pressure against caning "despite a ruthless campaign by 'do-gooding' fanatics egged on by the Labour Party."

BARRY FANTONI



"The bidding is against you, sir, at twelve o'clock high"

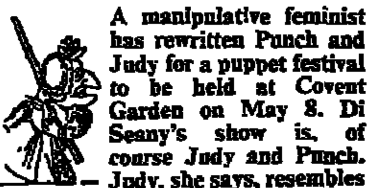
Worker's control

My former chief, Sir Willian Rees-Mogg, evidently gets along all right now with the workers at the Arts Council. He has just announced the appointment of the former chief shop steward – though they call it chairman of the staff association at the Arts Council – as music director. Rees-Mogg describes Richard Lawrence as "exceptionally able" and is "all the more pleased the appointment is made from existing council staff".

● *Some woolly thinking crept into the postal ballot for elections to the British Wool Marketing Board. The board is now looking for a producer whose official envelope was returned, postmarked Lampeter, containing not a voting form but a £5 note and a shopping list for pet food and custard powder.*

Rowdy or Nutter?

The present row about whether Oxford United should merge with Reading could not, *New Society* argues, have happened to a better club. It was Oxford's terraces the social psychologist Peter Marsh inhabited for three years to observe the fans' behaviour. His researches classified football hooligans into two groups, Rowdies and Nutters. Now he might become a Rowdy or Nutter himself. He opposes the merger and took part in Saturday's demonstration on the pitch.



A manipulative feminist has rewritten Punch and Judy for a puppet festival to be held at Covent Garden on May 8. Di Seany's show is, of course Judy and Punch. Judy, she says, resembles an East End mum and "quite likes men." Reversing the classic pattern, she triumphs over the Devil (a DHSS inspector) and the Hangman (a Thatcherite). The Sambo character becomes Bowling Ali, Muhammad's Rastafarian baby brother.

PHS

The innocent and the insidious

Both CND and the Labour Party favour Britain giving up her nuclear weapons, but a clear distinction should be made between the two groups. Most of CND's members are muddled, mistaken idealists, with no experience of international affairs and no knowledge of the Soviet Union or Eastern Europe.

They have a very understandable fear of nuclear war and the present profusion of nuclear weapons breeds in them a strong and emotional conviction that they should do something about it, even if it is the wrong thing.

The Labour Party, however, knows well what it is doing. The left wing is pro-East and wants to make Britain and the West weaker. The right wing is pro-West and knows that unilateralism is wrong. But it does not want to make itself weaker in the party by openly opposing Labour's lurch towards neutralism.

An exception should perhaps be made for Mr Michael Foot. He became a unilateralist at the age of 45, and has been one for the succeeding quarter of a century (except when he was in the Labour government). He is the same in beliefs and prejudices as he was when he used to spend his Easters ambling between Aldermaston and Trafalgar Square, even though the world has changed.

But the CND is not cynical. It is at least as innocent as Mr Foot was in the 1950s.

Sir Ian Gilmour warns Conservatives not to confuse CND with the real political opposition

CND's basic fallacy is to think that the West and the Soviets are very like each other and are both equally to blame for the cold war and the arms race. So CND equates Nato and the Warsaw Pact. But the Warsaw Pact is a facade. It is wholly Russian-dominated. Nato is entirely different. No country abrogates to itself the right to determine the political and social arrangements of its neighbours – Nato is an alliance of free countries.

From the fallacy that East and West are basically the same stem all the other fallacies. Mr E. P. Thompson seems aware of the danger. He has talked of "the sleepwalkers in the peace movement" and of the peril of CND placing its trust in the Soviet Union. "It is time for the peace movement to wash the sleep out of its eyes . . .".

Recently we have heard from a Czech dissident who writes in the *New Statesman* under the name of Váchar Racek. "In contrast with you," Mr Racek told Mr Thompson, "I am deeply convinced that liberty is a necessary condition of peace, of true peace . . . Human history shows that liberty must, very often, be gained and defended by force . . ."

Mr Racek knows what he is talking about; he lives under a totalitarian dictatorship. Until there are human rights in Russia, the Soviet system will present a danger to the West.

Once it is conceded that the conditions in East and West are fundamentally different, CND's policy is plainly indefensible. Since there can be no genuine peace movement in the East, one-sided disarmament by Britain would produce no response save laughter from the USSR.

At the time of the 1962 Cuba crisis, the US had a strategic nuclear supremacy of about 60 to one. Hence, in those days, Mr Foot's unilateralism was a harmless fad. Today there is nuclear parity. Unilateralism, like Mr Foot, is no longer harmless. For Labour now to seek to rupture Nato is a consensus act of sabotage. That is not true of CND, which does not know what it is doing. CND can be defeated in argument. For Labour, the only cure is the ballot box.

The author, Conservative MP for Chesham and Amersham, was Lord Privy Seal from 1979-81. This article is extracted from a speech given by Sir Ian to the York University Conservative Association last nigh.

The Ascendants' descendants on the way up

Dublin

A Protestant wedding reception in the Irish Republic recently ended with a dilemma for the Roman Catholic band: should they finish with the Irish national anthem?

Out of respect for the supposed susceptibilities of the wedding guests, the band played something else. The guests knew nothing of the musicians' concern and, had they done so, would probably have insisted on the anthem being played, as it is at the end of many social functions, public and private, throughout the country.

But the incident neatly encapsulates how the Republic's small number of Protestants are often viewed as not quite fully fledged Irishmen or whose allegiance to the state is not 100 per cent. Their position in a predominantly conservative and Roman Catholic country has been highlighted in recent months by the tortuous political, religious and medical debate on the proposal to introduce a constitutional amendment banning abortion.

Being under the spotlight is not a position many lay Protestants relish. A lot of older people are reluctant to speak out publicly on any controversy which might lead to them being branded with the offensive "West Briton" label. Their leading clergy have had no such inhibitions and have entered the abortion debate with such vigour that one member of the Dail accused Dr Victor Griffin, Dean of St Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin, of being "another Paisley".

Southern Protestants were also quick to respond to a resolution by two Northern Ireland Unionist Euro MPs accusing the Republic of "institutionalized sectarianism" against the Protestants. The Rev David Woodworth, a Church of Ireland rector in County Cork, retorted: "I don't think they give a damn about southern Protestants except when it's convenient for their own political purposes.".

Behind these public utterances, in which the Dean has said that Protestants are fed up with the continual debate on sexual matters, is a growing confidence, especially among younger Protestants, about their place in the Republic's society.

Churchmen also believe that the number of Protestants could be rising after the sharp fall of the last 60 years. Huge losses in the First World War, the withdrawal of the British Army and Civil Service, emigration at the time of the 1921 partition, smaller families and mixed marriages – all have contributed to the savage decline, from around 300,000 in 1911 to 120,000 – 4 per cent of the popblation – in 1971.

In areas of Dublin, Protestant schools report a bigger intake and in one suburb the Methodists are considering building a new church to cope with their growing congregation. One Methodist minister reported similar growth in central Ireland, although the drift continues from the West.

The signs of the Protestant revival are being cautiously welcomed. It is occurring at a time of rapid social change when a large, youthful population knows little of old divisions and probably cares even less.

Traditionally, most Protestants have been middle-class with strong representation in the midlands and they have tended to live self-contained lives. But the exclusively Protestant preserves have been swept away, with Trinity College now having a majority of Roman Catholic students and the Guinness brewery long ago opening its door to the majority religion.

"Protestants today are becoming much more mainstream and there is less sense of being apart, especially among the younger people", says Dr Griffin. But he accepts that there have been problems of identity for the older generation, whose parents still remember the break with Britain.

There may be anger at the assumption that every Irishman is a Roman Catholic and that you can be a true Irishman only if you are one. David Pierepoint, a young Protestant bank official brought up to mix with Roman Catholics, said: "I'm an Irishman with complete loyalty to the state. I would like a united Ireland, although without the violence, which I abhor. I have no feelings of allegiance to Britain, although I do admire it".

Neither does this younger generation have the inhibitions of its parents in discussing with Roman Catholics the often taboo subjects of abortion, contraception and divorce. But although these matters are talked about freely in ordinary conversation, the non-Catholic churches are more wary about being seen to be in the vanguard of movements pressing for changes on such moral issues.

One reason for the recovery in Protestant numbers could be the more liberal interpretation by the Roman Catholic clergy of the mixed marriages issue. The canon law requirement that every effort be made by the Catholic partner to bring up any child of a mixed marriage in the faith is not only probably the greatest strain in everyday relations between the two faiths but the one that brings the deepest resentment among Protestants.

Dr Griffin said: "There is a great feeling of loss in Protestant families when a son or daughter marries a Catholic. We see it as the way to annihilation and as most unfair on the couple getting married."

Yet churchmen say that many "mixed" couples, especially in urban areas where social pressures have eased, are bringing up their children as Protestants. A Dun Laoghaire minister estimates that 25 per cent of the children at his Sunday school are from mixed marriages. Dr Griffin says that more couples are trying to bring up their children in both faiths, allowing them to worship in the church of each partner. He adds: "We don't want all the children brought up as Protestants. We regard it as a private matter for a couple to solve."

Richard Ford



Dr Griffin: "Less sense of being apart"

David Watt

Coming to terms with Andropov

The Soviet commentator Alexander Bovin is, as his name suggests, a great ox of a man, a fat man with an even fatter man inside trying to get out. He is also a personality of great intelligence, humour and charm. Some of you may have seen him on television the other night telling viewers that no serious dialogue with the Americans is possible so long as President Reagan remains in office. Others may have read him in last Sunday's *Observer* urging moderation in East-West relations. It is worth considering what he had to say not just because his trip to London last week to attend the Anglo-Soviet Round Table at Chatham House comes at a highly charged moment, but because he is said to be very close to Yuri Andropov.

Bovin's argument, as he explained it to me, runs as follows. All revolutions – English, French, American, Russian – begin with ideology, but time and the demands of external events dilute this element until eventually the overwhelming ingredients are pragmatism and national interest. Soviet Russia, since the death of Lenin, has proceeded predictably along this path and now stands at a place where ideology is still important, certainly, but where pragmatism is already the dominant flavour.

For Bovin, the paradox and puzzle is that the United States, which had its revolution more than 200 years ago and has duly progressed according to plan, has suddenly under President Reagan turned in the opposite direction and is now, apparently, determined to lead an ideological crusade against communism and the "empire of evil" that is the Soviet Union. This is depressing and dangerous, says Bovin. National interest is negotiable but Holy War precludes compromise and leads to the final horrifying clash between good and evil at Armageddon.

This is nice stuff, and so far as Reaganism is concerned, expresses a puzzlement that spreads far beyond the Soviet Union. The problem, as always with Soviet controversy, is to know how much of it is tactics disguised as sincerity and how much is sincerity creeping out from behind a safe mask of tactics.

On the face of it, of course, the whole thesis is a shameless piece of effrontery. There is nothing on earth more relentlessly ideological than a Soviet commentator when he wishes to make his points in that form. Who has been talking about (and indeed conducting) the death struggle between capitalism and Marxism-Leninism all these years? More than that, ideology is the air that Soviet leaders breathe, the water they swim in and in the end the justification of their existence.

The fifteenth-century papacy, worldly, corrupt and aggressive as it was, never divorced itself entirely from ecclesiastical and doctrinal considerations; similarly Soviet foreign policy, however much nationalism and self-interest may appear to dictate its moves, is under the ultimate necessity of clothing these imperatives in doctrinaire dress – a process always present and always significant. So much is this the case that we may wonder why Bovin has not been arraigned for heresy and burned at the stake in suitably cinquecento style for daring to speak in such secular terms. To this question the cynic will give three answers.

First, he is close to Mr Andropov and therefore has a licence to say pretty well anything he pleases (so long as Andropov himself survives). Second, so able a controversialist would undoubtedly have a fireproof piece of casuistry ready in case he is haled before the Inquisition. If theology is to one's taste, there are many entrancing hours to be spent speculating what this defence might be, but I suppose that its first line would be that the eventual triumph of communism is so inevitable that "ideology" is in a sense irrelevant. Thus, when the late lamented Comrade Kruschev remarked to the capitalists, "We will bury you', he was not announcing an ideological intention but merely stating an historical inevitability.

The third reason for Bovin's insouciance might be said to be that the Russians have excellent tactical reasons for talking to us in this way at this particular moment. The French are having an anti-Soviet beanfeast; the West Germans are suspected in Washington of "neutralism". The British are not only worried – politely, but definitely and at all levels – about the Reagan administration, they also still have some influence in Washington and are in a mood to try and exert it.

How, then, if we were in the Kremlin, should we handle the British? Well, we adopt our most civilized tone. We appeal to their sense of history and moderation. We speak more in sorrow than in anger about this brash, uncouth, un-British fellow in the White House whom more mature, experienced nations have to try to restrain for the good of humanity. In short we butter them up, and who better qualified to lay it on than Comrade Bovin?

At the same time it is important that we shouldn't outsmart ourselves. It is entirely consistent with probability and with their self-interest that the Russians should believe (a) that the arms race is too expensive and that some compromise is therefore desirable at Geneva; (b) that the Reagan administration does not really propose to compromise except on terms of overwhelming superiority, and (c) that Reagan is actively determined to destroy them and their system and to risk a nuclear war in the process.

Again, there is nothing inherently impossible in Bovin's particular gloss on all this or in the supposition that Mr Andropov has about as much practical concern with ideology as Pope Alexander VI – a potentate underpinned by an absolutist philosophy but one with whom it was possible to do business on a limited basis and even, occasionally, to dine, provided you took suitable precautions.

Yet, at the end of the day, it scarcely matters whether the Russians are sincere and truthful in this account of their present feelings or whether it is all tactics. We have to answer the questions for ourselves. Lord Carrington supplied an authoritative set of British answers in his Alistair Buchan Memorial Lecture last week, saying in effect that a Geneva deal on compromise terms is in our interest; that the Soviet system will collapse in the end of its own accord without dangerous assistance from us; and that dogma and "megaphone diplomacy" are out of place in our deals with the East.

He is quite right. What is most required at the moment is calmness, firm self-confidence and flexibility. And the fact that for the time being the Soviet leaders, ably represented by Mr Bovin, would probably agree for a variety of reasons, good and bad, with the general Carrington postion while Mr Reagan would probably not, does not necessarily invalidate it.

How one Botha has caused P.W. a spot of local bother

Johannesburg

Election fever is mounting here with the approach of May 10 when 69,000 white voters in the Transvaal, the electoral power base of South Africa's ruling National Party (NP), will have an opportunity to tell the government what they think of its proposed constitutional reforms. They will do so in four by-elections that could change the course of the country's history.

Commentators here have drawn comparisons with the Wakkerstroom by-election in the Transvaal in 1944, the first of a series of by-election defeats for the United Party (UP) of General Jan Smuts which culminated in the victory of Dr Daniel Malan's Nationalists at the 1948 general election and the advent of the apartheid era.

The by-elections came about in a bizarre way back in February when Mr Fanie Botha, the Minister of Manpower, lost his temper while being heckled in the House of Assembly in Cape Town and rashly offered to resign his seat and subject himself to the hazard of re-election provided that Dr Andries Treurnicht, the leader of the extreme right-wing Conservative Party (CP), did the same.

Dr Treurnicht, Mr Botha declared, did not have "the courage of a mouse". But the mouse roared, and Mr Botha, a senior cabinet minister whose legalization of black trade unions is widely regarded as the government's main reformist achievement, finds himself fighting for his political life in his Soutpansberg constituency in the far north of the Transvaal. Many government MPs already talk openly of "Fanie's *flater*" (Afrikaans for blunder).

The other main contest is in the Waterberg constituency in the western Transvaal where Dr Treurnicht is defending the seat he held for the NP at the 1981 general election. A year later he and 17 other MPs were expelled from the party for refusing to endorse the government plan for sharing power with the mixed-blood coloured and Indian minorities, and formed the CP.

A third parliamentary by-election will be held in the Waterkloof constituency, a well-to-do suburb of Pretoria, which has been vacated by the CP's Tom Langley, who has agreed to take on Mr Botha in the Soutpansberg. Here the main opposition to the government comes from the liberal Progressive Federal Party, which is hoping for a striking victory in the conservative heartland of Afrikanerdom.

The fourth by-election is to the Transvaal Provincial Council, and will take place in Carletonville, a mining constituency south-west of Johannesburg, where the NP incumbent recently died. Though considered less important than the other three, it will be an interesting test of opinion among white miners, who form one of the most conservative groups in the country.

If the government loses badly to the CP, it could set Dr Treurnicht's bandwagon rolling again at a time when it had seemed to be losing momentum, and encourage more Nationalist MPs to climb aboard. Conservative Party MPs could also take it in turn to resign their seats and force the government into an almost endless series of damaging by-election campaigns. If the reverses continued, the Prime Minister, Mr P. W. Botha, would almost certainly have to call a general election.

Moderate whites are worried that right-wing victories in what the local press has dubbed the "battle of the bergs" would put paid to the government's modest reforms. But many liberals would welcome such an outcome in the belief that it would hasten the disintegration of the Afrikaner nationalist base of the ruling party. In their view, that is the only way in which a truly reformist realignment of white political forces can be brought about.

There is no doubt that it will be close-run. If the government wins, of course, the picture will be transformed. The far right will have suffered a devastating psychological blow, and Mr Fanie Botha will be remembered as a hero rather than a blunderer. For the moment, however, the ruling party shows all the symptoms of being in an advanced state of panic.

One factor in the government's favour is the continuing failure of Dr Treurnicht to achieve a fully-working electoral alliance with the even more fanatical Herstigte Nasionale Party (HNP) of Dr Jaap Marais, which broke away from the ruling party in 1969. The HNP has, however, agreed not to field a candidate in the Soutpansberg, and advised its supporters to vote CP.

The campaign is being fought with all the special venom which only a *Broederetwis*, a brothers' quarrel, can generate. Accusations of corruption have been hurled at Mr Fanie Botha by his erstwhile colleagues, including a potentially damaging suggestion that he improperly used his position as Minister of Water Affairs 10 years ago to get Parliament to write off a large debt incurred by an irrigation scheme in which he had an undisclosed personal interest. There have been fisticuffs at some meetings.

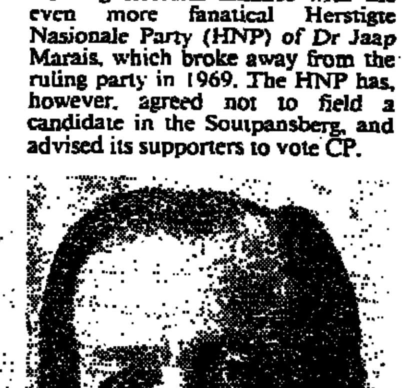
One of the main effects so far of the campaign has been to force the government into a posture of almost ludicrous defensiveness about its constitutional reforms, which are now being put into legal language for submission to Parliament. There have already been many delays, and the government is evidently hoping to avoid any real debate on the detail of the legislation until after the by-elections are over.

Meanwhile, senior cabinet ministers are scurrying from meeting to meeting in the Transvaal enumerating at length all the things that are not going to change as a result of the reforms. At the same time, the government is trying to persuade coloureds and Indians, as well as opinion abroad, that it has embarked on a major departure from the rigidities of classical apartheid.

The confusion in government circles has been reflected in the Prime Minister's gyrations over the issue of a referendum. In February, it was announced that he had decided against a referendum. A few weeks ago he suddenly changed his mind and said that one would be held for whites only after the constitutional changes had been passed by Parliament but before they were implemented.

This led to pressure for similar but much more hazardous tests of coloured and Indian opinion. To which Mr Botha grudgingly gave in, though without committing himself on the timing, only to declare a week ago to general derision that no referendums would be held so long as the drought lasted. Political correspondents here are now looking to the weather bureau rather than the Prime Minister's office for further guidance.

Michael Hornsby



Fanie Botha: blunderer – or will he turn out a hero?



Andries Treurnicht: his bandwagon could start rolling again

Philip Howard

Cry wolf and unleash an age-old fear

Never trust a man with pale grey eyes, or one whose eyebrows meet in the middle. Be suspicious if he has bushy grey hair growing out of his ears. If he takes his clothes off and circum-micturates around them, run for your life; for you may be sure that he is a werewolf, a man-wolf, probably derived from the Old English *wer*, cognate with the Latin *vir*, a man. There are no female werewolves. Vampires, yes; she-werewolves, no.

It is remarkable what a strong hold the superstition about the man who can turn into a wolf, the *loupgarou* of France, has upon our imagination. The last wolf was extirpated in England in the reign of Henry VII, though wolves survived in Scotland until well into the eighteenth century. The wolf is extinct in the New World, except in Alaska. And yet the comic strips, the trash thrillers and the video shops still do brisk business with tales like *I Was a Teenage Werewolf*. To some extent, the maniac hitch-hiker has replaced the werewolf as a popular horror from the wild outside who irrupts into our civilized world.

The other day I was lucky enough to meet Richard Buxton of Bristol University, who is doing research into the myth of werewolves. You find them *passim* in the classical literature, though not as *passim* as in medieval literature. The wolf is a potent symbol of cruelty and wildness; which is odd, really, since wolf's main enemy, man, is far more cruel and wild. Left to itself, the wolf preys on large ungulates, rabbits, mice and other vermin; but not man. When food is scarce, it turns to domestic animals: hence the warfare with man, who has been raising stock since neolithic times.

From the earliest literature the wolf was a symbol of the outsider, the cruel predator. Remember Dolon, the incompetent Trojan night spy, who significantly wore a cloak of a grey wolf's skin (old English proverb: "The wolf must die in his own skin"). The Eumenides, your friendly local Furies, said that their disposition was like a raw-minded wolf, "it cannot be appeased".

In the sources the wolf is also a symbol of cooperation. Dogs all look different. Wolves look alike, and share their kill; so they are perceived as cooperative. There is an agreeable antique anecdote of a man running away from a pack of wolves and taking refuge in the Nile. But the wolves held on to each other's tails and so reached far enough into the river to get their man.

Then, very early, you get your werewolves. In the Greek myth of the flood, Zeus finally lost his patience with the race of man when Lycaon, the King of Arcadia, served him a stew of human flesh for dinner. So he turned Lycaon into a werewolf: "he keeps the same grey hair, the same fierce face, the same gleaming eyes, the same picture of beastly savagery." Pliny tells the story that one of the family of Antaeus was chosen annually by lot, to be transformed into a wolf, in which shape he continued for nine years. There are others. And the idea of wolf eating man persists. In extreme old age, Milo of Croton, the heavyweight athlete, got his hands caught in a tree he was trying to tear apart. The wolves came and ate him, demonstrating that their bite was worse than his bark.

Myths are not just fairy stories. They are powerful patterns for thinking about things. We evidently still need the werewolf as the pervasive and potent image of the marginal outsider who is different, and therefore dangerous. But, as the old Canadian trapper said: "Any man who says he has been et by a wolf is a liar." I always thought that "Black as halfway down a wolf's throat" was Damon Runyon's original. Not so, I see that *Escuro como boca de lobo*, dark as a wolf's mouth, is at least 300 years old in Spain.

هكذا من الأصل



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DOWN MEXICO WAY

President Reagan's dilemma in Central America is a European dilemma too, though for different reasons. So it is important for European governments to show understanding of the intensity of feeling which the issue excites within the American administration, even though they might have different opinions about how President Reagan should seek to resolve his dilemma.

In his address to the joint session of both Houses of Congress on Wednesday he recognized that, even within the USA, many people find it hard to believe that what *happens in* Central America has any significant bearing on American strategy. The fact that he sought the *address* was *itself* an eloquent indication of the difficulty he has had in persuading American congressional opinion, and public opinion at large, to recognize this truth. "Too many have thought of Central America as a place way down below *Mexico* that cannot possibly constitute a threat to our well-being."

He pointed out that El Salvador – a small faraway country of which we in Europe know little or nothing – is nearer to Texas than Texas is to Massachusetts; that Nicaragua is as close to Miami and many of the major cities of the southern *United States*, as they are to Washington; that two-thirds of all the foreign trade and oil traffic pass through the Panama Canal and the Caribbean. In a more important context for his European allies, he said that at least *half American supplies for* Nato would go through these areas by sea during an emergency.

That is the crux of the matter, which is often lost on the European mind. If the United States becomes *primarily* preoccupied with the threat posed to its neighbours by revolutionary movements in Central America, and, in particular with the danger of that revolutionary infection spreading to Mexico, leading to a surge of refugees and subversives across the long uncontrollable common border, into the huge and growing Hispanic population centres within the United States, there will certainly be no time for Europe's needs. Indeed the British experience last year during the Falklands crisis, though it had a happy ending, should have provided a sufficiently salutary warning to all America's Nato allies that a continental strategic perspective could easily outweigh an Atlantic one, unless the infection is contained.

In those circumstances – and with their shared intelligence material – the Western allies can certainly agree with Mr Reagan that "the Caribbean basin is a magnet for adventurism". The Cuban revolution is, and always has been, for export. The same can now be said for Nicaragua. With Cuban help come the ubiquitous East Germans, and their military methods and equipment.

The dilemma for Mr Reagan is that, while he and his administration are haunted by the prospect of a revolutionary leftist Mexico, Mexico itself appears to have no such fears for the future. Does he therefore press ahead with his lonely crusade to cauterize the Caribbean, or does he seek to enlist the help of moderate Central American governments, clustered together in the Contadora Group, and work through them towards some kind of diplomatic military and economic settlement?

Hitherto they have stood aside from the United States policy, believing it to be too starkly pinned to the promise of a military victory in El Salvador. *That scepticism seemed to* survive even the successful election held last year when, as President Reagan pointed out, more than eighty per cent of the electorate voted in defiance of the guerilla threat "Vote Today, *Die Tonight*". The election *did* not solve anything, and no further election is likely to do so either. It should be noted, however, that elections are a comparative rarity in that area, particularly among those countries loudest *in their criticisms* of the United States. None the less the election was an impressive demonstration for peace, which may receive further encouragement from the tone of Mr Reagan's address this week.

The President expressed the hope for a bipartisan policy. He recalled that President Carter had initially helped the Nicaraguan revolutionary government before it betrayed his trust. He emphasized that *three-quarters* of American help to El Salvador is economic, and that there was no question of American troops entering the region. He proposed that, subject to verifiable and reciprocal regional arrangements, all foreign military advisors and troops should be withdrawn from the area. He also recognised that the issues are not simply a contest between those wearing white hats and those wearing black by calling for a dialogue not just between countries in the region but between groups within each country.

European governments can echo those sentiments without necessarily endorsing all the actions of the administration within the affected area. Europe has little influence or expertise in Central America, but what it has should be husbanded. Blind support for the United States, particularly from Britain after the Falklands episode, would do American policy no good, though there is also no case for pursuing the clever ploys, taken for purely internal left-wing consumption, by French policy makers in the region.

Europe should use what influence it has in the area to help moderate Central American governments come forward into a more active role that in turn would *take the heat off the* United States. There can be no disputing the fact that the stability of Mexico, Columbia, Venezuela and others would suffer gravely if the calculated subversion of the area was seen to succeed. *To that extent* they too have a vested interest in helping to relieve the United States of some of its preoccupation. The same initiatives taken by the Contadora Group, for instance, could easily prevail where *Washington* would fail. Smoke is rising from Central America; it must be more sensible to help put out the fire, than to argue about how to do so.

NO EASY EXIT

Nobody is left much the wiser by Mr Justice Woolf's response to the Attorney General's request for a High Court ruling that it is *a crime to distribute* the Voluntary Euthanasia Sciety's "Guide to Self-Deliverance". The good judge plainly felt acutely uncomfortable at being put in the exceptional position of being asked to declare that a given action is criminal, as distinct from declaring that it is not. As he rightly says, the answer will depend on the circumstances, the intent and the outcome, and it must be for a jury to weigh these matters at the time. But it is clear that those distributing the booklet remain in theory very vulnerable to penalties ranging up to 14 years' imprisonment, under a law framed without regard to the peculiar circumstances of the case, and at a period when public attitudes in this area were materially different.

The booklet is addressed to readers who believe that they either are or may one day be in need of information to assist them to end their lives with the least risk of pain, failure or harm to others. It is not disputed that it does so in a responsible way, if the task itself is responsible: it is frank about the grimmer aspects of the act, and it recommends long delay and resort to medical and other advice before the reader makes a final choice. But if only by diminishing what the judge calls the deterrent of ignorance, it may clearly induce a hesitant reader to choose suicide, and indeed its writers clearly expect it to do so. On the face of it, that would seem to fall under the 1961 Act's prohibition of any act that "aids, abets, counsels or procures the suicide of another".

Some such sanction is necessary against those gain evil or irresponsible individual influence over victims of emotional crisis. Many suicides and attempted suicides – perhaps most – spring from acute desperation over health, money or personal relationships which the victims may look back on a few months later with incredulity and thankfulness that they have survived. One of the most pregnant lights in the character of suicide is the sudden fall of no less than one-third in the British suicide rate the years 1964-70, apparently as a result of the introduction of non-poisonous natural gas in the home. If the means are readily to hand, impulse will make use of them; if not, the crisis is likely to pass.

It is not for such cases that the booklet is designed; or if it is, it is designed to persuade then to stop and reflect. The society imposes restrictions intended to confine its circulation to readers with a settled interest in the topic. Without these controls, its position would be far weaker. It has become widely accepted today that it is a legitimate exercise of personal freedom to make a cool decision – for instance, in the face of incurable progressive illness – to end one's life. There are danger in this change of attitudes, which the publication of the "Guide" must tend to reinforce. Useful inhibitions against impulsive suicide are likely to be eroded, and (perhaps a greater matter of concern) some disabled or elderly people enxious not to be a burden may be put under greater psychological pressure to carry the idea of self-effacement too far.

The judge summarizes the circumstances in which he considers that it might be an offence to distribute the "Guide". A prosecution could not succeed without proof that a recipient had actually been assisted or encouraged to make an attempt by the booklet. The judge doubts whether it would be a sufficient defence for the distributor to be able to show that he had no individual knowledge of the circumstances of the recipient: a jury might find that a general knowledge that a significant number of recipients would be contemplating suicide provided the necessary proof of intent. The length of time between receipt of the booklet and the suicide might be crucial. It is all highly uncertain, and distinctly arbitrary: so much so that a prosecution would be a lottery scarcely serving the interest of justice. Rather than try the lottery, the Attorney General should consider clarifying matters with fresh legislation, as the Judge virtually invites him to do.

STUNG BELOW THE WATERLINE

The storm that has broken out over Soviet submarines in Swedish waters may well prove to be a turning-point in relations between the two countries, and to be an episode of wider European significance. For years Sweden has been noted as the most outspoken of European neutrals. Often in the past this quality has been irritating to Nato countries, and especially to the United States. Mr Olof Palme, the Swedish Prime Minister, has not been America's favourite foreign politician. Towards the Soviet Union Sweden has frequently given the impression of being too trusting. But if that has been true in the past, it is so no longer.

The report from a parliamentary commission of the number and extent of the violations of Swedish territorial waters by Soviet submarines has come as a shock to Swedish politicians and to the general public. The charges have been denied by Moscow, but that has done nothing to undermine the authority of a commission chaired by so eminent a figure as Mr Sven Andersson, the former defence and foreign minister. There will be no disposition in future, as there has sometimes been, for Swedes to suspect that their navy sights Soviet submarines at convenient moments when defence expenditure is under review. They now have evidence that Soviet submarines have illegally entered Swedish territorial waters on numerous occasions and have even sailed into Stockholm harbour.

Mr Palme has responded to the report with a firm protest to the Soviet Union and a warning that their submarines would be fired upon if they infringed Swedish territorial waters again.

This does not mean that the Swedes are about to give up their cherished neutrality. There is no possibility of that: neutrality is too deeply ingrained in the Swedish consciousness. Moreover, fear mingles with indignation over the submarine disclosures and there is no willingness to take unnecessary risks, either with Swedish or indeed with Finnish security which many Swedes believe would be put in jeopardy if Sweden were to give up its neutrality.

But while Sweden will remain neutral, there may well be a change in the nature of its neutrality, a greater readiness to be publicly critical of the Soviet Union. Sweden has always known throughout the postwar years that any threat to its security would come from the Soviet Union, not from the Nato powers. This episode will have made that threat seem more real. It does not mean that Sweden is about to be invaded, but it does indicate how little respect the Soviet Union has for the legal rights and for the territorial integrity of others.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Ending television licence fee

From Mr David Elstein

Sir, The implications of cable television for the BBC are far less threatening than Howard Davies (feature, April 26) suggests. The question is: how will the BBC respond?

The philosophy which underpins cable's advent is to give the *consumer greater choice* and the *broadcaster greater freedom*. If the process of deregulation continues beyond the introduction of cable, *the next step is not the* abolition *of* the BBC, but the abolition of the licence fee.

The licence fee's main defect is not, as *Mr Davies* argues, that it is a regressive form of taxation. The 20p cost of purchasing *The Times* daily also falls equally on rich and poor alike. *The faults of the licence* system lie deeper than that.

First, there is an inherent objection to forcing users of *television sets to pay a fee to the* BBC irrespective of whether they view BBC programmes. This blemish is aggravated by the inevitable grudgingness that develops between the BBC and its audience, deriving from the element of compulsion in their relationship. This is unhealthy for both sides.

Secondly, the licence fee is set by politicians. In the recent inflationary past this has left the BBC exposed to the displeasure of Westminster in a way which has diminished public confidence in the BBC's editorial independence.

A solution to both these problems is to allow the BBC to set its own "subscription" level by abolishing the licence fee system. A simple mechanical device would be put on sale at the beginning of each year, which, when interposed between the aerial lead and socket of a domestic receiver, would "unscramble" BBC television. The cost of the device could be varied each year.

Licence fee evasion would end, no one would pay for programmes they did not want to watch, and the BBC would recover its freedom. A direct, healthy relationship between consumer and producer would ensue.

Of course, some viewers would choose to do without BBC programmes and decline to buy the device. However, the BBC will scarcely complain at losing such involuntary licence-payers. And, given the unchallengeable evidence of what I predict would be extremely high subscription levels, we might all be spared the constant reminders from the BBC about the wonderful value it gives.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID ELSTEIN,
Brook Productions,
2 Newburgh Street, W1.
April 26.

Trial in South Africa

From Miss Mercy Edgedale

Sir, You have reported (April 20) Mr Cedric Mayson's statements regarding the likely dangers befalling the Rev Beyers Naude should he have been a witness at Mr Mayson's trial in South Africa. Once more we have read stories of torture in South Africa which, to my mind, foul the pages of *The Times*. You have also reported President Kaunda's dire warnings of war in Africa if the West does not change its attitude to South Africa. But nowhere do you report the source of this freedom to torture and freedom to support South Africa with financial investment.

They come about through South Africa's continuing destabilization of her neighbours, a practice she has carried out through military and subversive means since Angola's and Mozambique's independence in 1974.

It is the reason why Zimbabwe is suffering as she is today, and because of British firms' (oil companies and financial institutions) constant support of South Africa throughout UDI (through sanction-busting and through making immense illegal profit) it is they who today carry the burden of blame.

Yours faithfully,
MERCY EDGEDALE,
55 Queen's Gate Mews, SW7.
April 22.

Uniform opportunities

From Mr A. R. Ritchie

Sir, Recent correspondents (April 20) on the suggestion that unemployed young people should be given the opportunity of a year's military service appear to believe that training in the use of arms will encourage them to turn into armed criminals in future years.

To use a hand-gun, be it a revolver or automatic, requires only the ability to load it and to press the trigger – hardly something which needs a year's training. The most popular criminal weapon, the shotgun, is not used by HM Forces.

I have not noticed a marked tendency towards armed violence in those trained in the use of firearms *in past conflicts: most of us* were only too pleased to get rid of our armaments.

Yours faithfully,
A. R. RITCHIE,
Whitelilies,
Ramsden Heath,
Billericay, Essex.
April 20.

War-torn Iraq

From the Ambassador of Iraq

Sir, *The Times* has published on April 14 an article by Helga Graham about which we wish to clarify certain points.

The Iraqi military forces not only halt the occasional Iranian attacks but also crush the Iranian military machine with a view to putting an end to its threat to Iraq and the Arabian Gulf.

Iraq, contrary to what is said by Helga Graham, still possesses the military initiative, but Iraq has more consideration for human life than the rulers of Iran who, in refusing peace, try to fortify their precarious position while sending mere children to inevitable death or capture at best.

Another point which Helga Graham has made a mistake about is the position of the Kurds in Iraq. They share in actual fact in the constitutional structure of the state, both in the legislative and the executive bodies as well as in autonomous Kurdistan, all within the framework of an Iraqi state.

She has mentioned some operations by outlaws, describing them as guerrilla activities. They are in reality nothing more than individual cases of neither consequence nor impact.

As to the reduction of the salaries of civil servants and officers by 20 per cent, she must have been talking about another country, for in Iraq nothing of the sort has happened.

Yours faithfully,
WAHBI AL-QARAGULI,
Embassy of the Republic of Iraq,
21 Queen's Gate, SW7.
April 15.

CND and the duties of the cloth

From Mr E. E. Y. Hayles

Sir, The moderation of your leading article, "Campaigner of the cloth" (April 27) on the matter of Mgr Bruce Kent's position in CND will, I am sure, be welcome to many Catholics. I am not a member of CND but, like others, I read what I can of the arguments for and against it and I have found those of the Monsignor invariably clear, honest *and cogent, as my acquaintance with* him in other contexts would lead me to expect.

To speak of him, as you quote the *Conservative MP for Louth speaking* (report, April 27) as doing the work of the Kremlin seems to me a smear and altogether unhelpful in this gravest moral and political issue of human history. Such language invites the rejoinder that those who continue to pile up the missiles while *dragging their feet in the* multilateral disarmament talks at Geneva are doing the work of the devil.

Anybody who *can remember* the protracted impasse, year after year, of the disarmament conference of the thirties at Geneva is unlikely to be surprised by the deadlock developing there today. Certainly there are serious risks in CND policies as there are in any policies in the position we have now reached. But at least they are risks incurred in a cause recognisably Christian and motivated by a refusal to share in guilt for genocide.

Yours sincerely
E. E. Y. HALES,
East Martyns,
Church Street,
Henfield,
West Sussex.
April 27.

From Mr R. A. Kennedy

Sir, On April 6 I wrote to Cardinal Hume and, as a Catholic layman, asked "... is it in order for a priest of the Church to hold office in a movement such as CND and does not his connexion with the movement and the consequent publicity lead the uninformed to believe that the Church actively supports CND?"

I went on to express concern that a member of the priesthood should actively associate himself with "... what is fast becoming a political issue ...".

The Cardinal has now pronounced on the issue; such pronouncement being, I suggest, entirely motivated by his very proper concern for the Church and not in the least by any consideration of a political nature whatsoever.

Yours,
R. A. KENNEDY,
41 Avondale Road,
Chesterfield,
Derbyshire.
April 27.

From Mr A. J. George

Sir, In your leading article today (April 27) about the position of Mgr Kent as General Secretary of CND you say that some priests in some situations are driven by moral fervour into the heart of political activity.

Surely when that political activity stems from deep concern for an issue which goes to the vey core of man's humanity that is exactly where one may expect to find a priest.

Yours faithfully,
A. J. GEORGE,
Flat 14,
93 Elm Park Gardens, SW10.
April 27.

From Mr Roger Graffley-Smith

Sir, Although a "wet" Conservative, I have no doubts as to the wisdom of opposing the CND philosophy. However, in the matter of Mgr Kent your issue of April 27 reveals all too clearly the lack of "tolerance and respect for another's motivation" which some Conservative politicians quoted there are encouraged to display on this issue.

Since Cardinal Hume has made very clear his own and thus presumably the Church's view, there should be no confusion.

History is littered with examples of men of the cloth speaking out in defence of moral principles unpalatable and detested by the government of the day. Pastor Niemoller's archbishop no doubt received similar advice in more recent times.

Surely the British way of proceeding in these matters is to confront the argument with all the passion and *logic* at one's *disposal* and not to seek to silence opponents such as Mgr Kent, or even Mrs Ruddock, by putting pressure on their employers?

Yours faithfully,
ROGER GRAFFTEY-SMITH,
Finsbury Circus House,
Blomfield Street, EC2.
April 27.

From Canon George Austin

Sir, Canon Paul Oestreicher complained (BBC Television News April 23) that Mr Heseltine had smeared CND by suggesting that a number of its most prominent leaders had communist or extreme left tendencies. But the Defence Secretary actually named names, and CND apologists have made no refutation of their political affiliations. So where is the "smear"?

On the other hand, Mr Oestreicher, speaking on BBC Radio 4 (Today, April 27) asserted that certain politicians had brought enormous pressure to bear on Cardinal Hume to take action against Mgr Bruce Kent, yet he flatly refused to identify the offenders. Surely this is a smear in the best (or worst) political tradition and entirely characteristic of the pedlars of extremist philosophies.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE AUSTIN,
The Vicarage,
19 High Road,
Bushey Heath,
Watford,
Hertfordshire.
April 27.

Duke and the bomb

From Lord Caldecote

Sir, I was disappointed to see that in your issue this morning (April 27) you incorrectly reported on an address given yesterday by his Royal Highness Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, in which he referred to the value and the danger of nuclear weapons.

While the substance of Prince Philip's address was correctly reported, the circumstances were not. His Royal Highness was opening the "Mantech" Syposium on the Social and Cultural Challenge of Modern Technology; this symposium was organised by the Fellowship of Engineering, of which Prince Philip is the Senior Fellow. The opening session was held at the Institution of Civil Engineers, but the institution as a body was not responsible for the symposium.

The Fellowship of Engineering is an interdisciplinary body of engineers with a present membership of some 500 Fellows. It aspires to become for engineering what the 300-year-old Royal Society represents for science as a whole, a focus of knowledge, excellence and influence in the service of the community.

Yours faithfully,
CALDECOTE,
President, The Fellowship of Engineering,
2 Little Smith Street,
Westminster, SW1.
April 27.

From Mr R. F. Ward

Sir, Now that Royalty has intervened in the nuclear debate, should it not be acknowledged that the question is non-political?

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD F. WARD,
Cricket Field Cottage,
Smallhythe,
Tenterden,
Kent.
April 27.

Hitler diaries

From Mr O. Zametica

Sir, Should Hitler's diaries be published or should they, as the Chief Rabbi so forcefully argues (April 26), be ignored, irrespective of whether or not their authenticity is substantiated?

Sir Immanuel, pleading on the grounds of "morality and truth", points to the fact that the diaries are calculated to exculpate their evil author. While this is true, it does not constitute a case against publication.

Inevitably, all diaries, memoirs and other forms of recollection add up, in varying degrees, to an exercise in apologia and are treated as such by the historical profession. Yet the incidental information revealed in the process is frequently very valuable.

In the case of Hitler's "testimony to posterity" – always assuming that *it is genuine* – such information, given its historical context, might prove to be of extraordinary importance to historians of diplomacy, war and ideology. *Indeed, it* would be immoral not to publish the diaries. For the cause of truth is certainly not served by the suppression of evidence, whatever the form it takes and whoever produces it.

Few people doubt the diabolical character of the Nazi regime. No amount of argument to the contrary, let alone that which emanates from Hitler himself, can change our fundamental views on the matter. If it did, the Chief Rabbi would of course have the dubious satisfaction of witnessing his warnings justified. In that event, however, we may as well abandon the study of history as positively dangerous.

Yours faithfully,
O. ZAMETICA,
Corpus Christi College,
Cambridge.
April 27.

From Dr Peter Dockwrey

Sir, As a believer that books are the one thing in the world of which one cannot be administered a lethal dosage, I was appalled by the emotive terms in which Sir Immanuel Jakobovits, the Chief Rabbi, roused us to revulsion against the publication of the so-called Hitler diaries, "whether they are authentic or not".

If genuine they will certainly illuminate the 1940 s. If fraudulent *they will alert us to the abiding* depravity of the 1980s. When and if they are published, will he, I wonder, incite us to burn them?

Yours faithfully,
PETER DOCKWREY,
17a Upper Park Road,
Hampstead, NW3.
April 26.

Telephone users unprotected

From Mr P. B. Matthews

Sir, Bernard Levin (*April 20*) would like British Telecom "to honour the contract" between them and himself in respect of telephone services. Would that there were one! In such a case one might sue for breach of contract and recover damages for losses suffered thereby.

But our wise and far-seeing Parliament has effectively insulated the public telephone service from anything *so obnoxious* as being liable to customers for not doing that which it is bound to do, by *preventing* contracts from arising at all. Services are rendered and charges are made under statutory schemes which avoid there being any contract. Further, liability in tort for causing loss to customers through (for example) failure of or delay in a telecommunication service is, by a thoughtful Legislature, *expressly excluded*.

This was the position under the Labour Government's Post Office Act 1969, and is equally the position under the free market-loving Tory Government's British Telecommunications Act 1981. Admittedly the new Act deems there to be a contract in relation to the hire of apparatus and to the insertion of certain special entries in directories, but in general it remains the case that no customer *has a contract with* British Telecom for telecommunications services.

Thus, not only may the corporation insult Mr Levin by ignoring his requests, but the courts are all but powerless to help him. How can a Government pledged to the free market economy justify such comprehensive protection for an organisation enjoying an effective monopoly?

Yours faithfully,
PAUL MATTHEWS,
Faculty of Laws,
University College London,
4-8 Endsleigh Gardens, WC1.

From Mrs Margaret A. Mills

Sir, Pass the broken phone Mr Levin (feature, April 20), I shall be next behind you in the queue. My *daughter was married* last Saturday, April 16, and British Telecom has hit on the novel idea of spreading the happiness of the occasion over a *longer period*.

They delivered the telemessages, handed in last week for the reception on Saturday, on several days this week. *The third one arrived by the* second post on Wednesday, April 20; this despite a guarantee of delivery by first-class post the next day.

The Post Office has joined in, too. With the same happy intention of spreading happiness around they have left parcels containing wedding presents on the doorstep in order that passers-by can help themselves and so join in the general rejoicing.

Yours faithfully,
MARGARET A. MILLS,
Eden House,
7 Eden Close,
Thorpe St. Andrew,
Norwich,
Norfolk.

Fading in the hills

From Mr D. B. Walters

Sir, Dr M. Hughes (April 8) fears that poor examination results by some 15-year-olds in Wales stem from the misguided devotion of resources to the preservation of Welsh and supports this view from Tim Jones's report on March 25, which quoted briefly from the *surveys of the Assessment of* Performance Unit (APU).

APU sample surveys recognize that a number of "background variables" affect performance; one of these is *fluency*, in mother tongue or second language. But APU surveys in Wales on mathematical and linguistic ability conclude that there is *no* statistically significant difference in numeracy or literacy between first and second language users (see e.g. *1st Report on* [Secondary School] *Language Performance*, 1982, paras. 5.11 and 6.10). On the contrary, three variables govern good results, in Wales as elsewhere: a teacher/pupil ratio of 1:25 or better; a non-metropolitan catchment area; and one that is relatively affluent (measured by the numbers taking free school meals).

Although CSE and GCE results are not the sole test of ability at 15+, high failure rates reflect discreditably on our school system. That does not justify the Language Freedom Movement (on whose behalf Dr Hughes presumably writes: see his letter to you of June 6, 1977) *claiming* that APU surveys support its hostility to Welsh-medium and bilingual education.

If the APU criteria are sound, it is on long-standing governmental neglect of industrial Wales, not on zeal for *Ysgolion Cymraeg*, that Dr Hughes should lay the blame.

Yours faithfully,
D. B. WALTERS,
1 Cambridge Street,
Edinburgh 1.
April 27.

Hard-boiled

From Mr J. P. Wilton

Sir, I was intrigued to read in today's Nature notes (April 25) that the wren hen lays six minute eggs. Presumably the tiny creature is trying to ingratiate itself; but it should be aware that four minutes is long enough for any egg, let alone a red-spotted one.

If this is an example of avian motherhood, I am thankfully yours, beakless,
J. P. WILTON,
London House,
Mecklenburgh Square, WC1.
April 25.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

WINDSOR CASTLE
April 28: The Queen was represented by the Marquess of Cholmondeley (Lord Great Chamberlain) at the Memorial Service for the Earl of Ancaster (formerly Lord Great Chamberlain) which was held in St Margaret's, Westminster today.

CLARENCE HOUSE
April 28: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, Patron of the Scottish National Memorial to David Livingstone Trust, this morning laid a wreath on the grave of David Livingstone in Westminster Abbey.

The Hon Mrs John Mulholland and Captain Alastair Aird were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
April 28: Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester was represented by Miss Jean Maxwell-Scott at the Memorial Service for The Earl of Ancaster which was held in St Margaret's, Westminster, today.

The Duke of Gloucester was present at the Ayrshire Agricultural Association Show in Ayr today. His Royal Highness also visited Burns Cottage and the Robert Burns Museum at Alloway Village.

His Royal Highness travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Simon Bland was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester, as President of the Royal London Society for the Blind, this afternoon opened new Dorton House, Sevenoaks, Kent.

The Hon Mrs Munro was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
April 28: The Duke of Kent, First Grand Principal of the Supreme Grand Chapter of England, this morning attended the Convocation of Grand Chapter and invested Grand Officers at Freemasons' Hall.

His Royal Highness later lunched with the Grand Chapter Club in the Connaught Rooms.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
April 28: Princess Alexandra was present at the Tenth Annual Luncheon of the Appeals Committee, Women's National Cancer Control Campaign, at Grosvenor House, London.

Lady Nicholas Gordon Lennox was in attendance.

Her Royal Highness was represented by the Hon Angus Ogilvy at the Memorial Service for the Earl of Ancaster which was held in St Margaret's, Westminster today.

The Prince and Princess of Wales will open an exhibition, The Renaissance at Sutton Place, at Sutton Place, Guildford on May 17.

The Prince of Wales will open the new building of the London Business School, Regent's Park, on May 26.

Princess Anne will attend the Variety Club of Great Britain's luncheon at the Hilton International hotel on June 7.

Princess Anne will visit Cumbria on June 28.

Princess Anne will visit Essex on July 28.

The Princess of Wales will open the new Grimsby District General Hospital on July 26.

Princess Alexandra will be present at the reception for the first Sir John Keswick Memorial Lecture, in aid of Phab (Physically Handicapped and Able Bodied), at the Royal Institution of Great Britain, London, on May 19.

The Emperor of Japan is 82 today.

A memorial service for Marquess Camden will be held on Wednesday, May 4, in the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks at noon.

A memorial service for Lieutenant-General Sir Charles Gairdner will be held today at 2.30 at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr C. L. Scahill and Miss S. J. Bayliss
The engagement is announced between Christian, younger son of Mr and Mrs Robert Scahill, York Villa, Westbourne Gardens, Hove, and Susan, elder daughter of Sir Richard B[illegible], Park Square West, London, [illegible] Constance Lady Bayliss, Cell Farm Cottage, Loughton, Milton Keynes.

Mr F. K. Showering and Miss S. Bentley
The engagement is announced between Francis, eldest son of the late Sir Keith Showering and of Lady Showering, of Sharcombe Park, Dinder, Wells, Somerset, and Suki, daughter of Mr John Bentley, of Old Church Street, London, SW3, and Mrs Dodie Leach, of 49 Highfield Drive, Hurstpierpoint, Sussex.

Mr V. J. M. Hill and Miss C. M. H. Goodall
The engagement is announced between John, elder son of the late Major V. M. Hill, RA, and of Mrs L. H. M. Hill, of The Flying Chariot, Hadleigh, Suffolk, and Caroline, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Goodall, of Mill Bank House, High Flatts, Yorkshire.

Dr B. W. Holbrook and Miss D. Rowley
The marriage will take place tomorrow between Brian Holbrook, of Blackheath, and Diana Rowley, of Greenwich.

Mr M. C. Isaacs and Miss N.-F. Woolf
The engagement is announced between Martin Charles, son of Dr and Mrs S. L. Isaacs, of London, NW4, and Nadia-France, daughter of Mr and Mrs L. G. Woolf, of London, NW8.

Mr A. J. Pelly and Miss J. C. Hair
The engagement is announced between Anthony, son of Mr and Mrs P. J. Pelly, of Lansdown, Bath, and Jane, daughter of Mr and Mrs D. N. Hair, of Wylam, Northumberland.

Herr A. S. J. Schoft and Miss C. M. Clark
The engagement is announced between Andreas, younger son of the late Dr H. G. Schoft and of Frau A. Schoft, of Munich, West Germany, and Catriona, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs C. D. L. Clark, of 19 Offley Road, SW9.

Mr J. M. Weldin and Miss F. J. Nesbitt
The engagement is announced between Michael, elder son of Mr and Mrs J. G. Weldin, of Churt, Surrey, and Fiona, daughter of Mr and Mrs I. H. Nesbitt, of Bath.



The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Glasgow, the Most Rev Thomas Winning, with the Loving Cup, awarded each year by the city to those who bring honour to Glasgow. Archbishop Winning helped to organize last year's papal visit to Britain.

Millfield School

The following have been awarded academic and music scholarships at Millfield School from September:

Academic scholars: Carolyn Cooke, Millfield Junior School: Peter Gaskell, Millfield Junior School: Nicholas Maddock, Millfield Junior School: Jonathan Manning, Haileybury Junior School: Mark Seymour, Millfield Junior School: Tarquin Shipley, The Red House, Norton-on-Tees: Timothy Wyles, Millfield Junior School:

Exhibitioners: Juliet Barton, Millfield Junior School: Nicholas Cartwright, Millfield Junior School: Tobin Ireland, The American Community School, Cobham: Rolesh Rogoowansi, Wellow House School, Nottinghamshire: Antonia Rawlinson, The British School, New Delhi, Peter Robertson, The Park School, Bath: Tom Sexton, Orwell Park School, Ipswich: Catherine Walker, Millfield Junior School, Neil Waterton, Millfield Junior School: Ruth Winter, Millfield Junior School.

Music scholars: Timothy Cronin, St Joseph's School, Port Talbot: Catherine Eastburn, Polhair School, St. Austell: Alice Jackson, Cotham Grammar School, Bristol: Joanna Lassam, The Wyvern School, Eastleigh: Rachel Sutton, Pimlico School SW1 Marie Turner, Kingdown School, Warminster.

In addition to these scholarships, a substantial number of bursaries have been awarded for the coming academic year.

Bishop appointed

The Venerable Arthur Henry Attwell, Archdeacon of Westmorland and Furness, has been appointed Bishop of Sodor and Man, in succession to the Right Rev Vernon Sampson Nicholls who is resigning on May 31.

Marriage

Mr P. D. Sandeman and Miss K. G. Fuller
The marriage took place on Saturday, April 23, 1983 at St Mary's Church, Castle Eaton, of Mr Patrick David Sandeman, son of Mr D. P. Sandeman, of Bolney, Sussex, and of Mrs Teresa Sandeman, of Redcliffe Gardens, London, and Miss Katherine Georgina Fuller, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Fuller, of Castle Eaton, Wiltshire.

Birthdays today

Mr Sydney Box, 76; Sir John Cox, 83; Miss Zizi Jeanmaire, 59; Sir John Llewellyn, 68; Mr Rod McKuen, 50; Mr Zubin Mehta, 47; Sir Fraser Noble, 65; the Hon Jacob Rothschild, 47; Mr Rudolf Schwarz, 78; Mr Jeremy Thorpe, 54; Mr David Tindle, 51; Sir Peter Youens, 67; Mr Fred Zinneman, 76.

Gift for cathedrals

The cathedrals of Gloucester, Hereford and Worcester have each received £5,000 for renovation work from an anonymous benefactor in British Columbia who visited the cathedrals many years ago during a Three Choirs Festival.

Latest wills

Mr John Downes **Sampson**, of Goring-by-Sea, West Sussex, accountant, left estate valued at £380,706 net. He left all of his property to the Royal United Kingdom Beneficent Association.

Other estates include (net, before tax paid):

Abu-Issa, Mr Abdul Salam Mohammed, of Qatar and Teddington, London, estate in England and Wales £429,170

Craggs, Mr Frank Foxton, of West Ella, North Humberside £1,194,357

Hughes, Mr Berwyn Lloyd, of Bodfari, Clwyd £431,193

Rhodes, Mr Arnold, of Bournemouth £215,801

Yeabsley, Sir Richard Ernest, of Bournemouth, president of the Society of Incorporated Accountants 1956-57 .... £73,776

Mullen, Mr Arthur Ernest, of Chalfont St Peter, Buckinghamshire, master printer £208,171

Smith, Mr James William, of Skegness, Lincolnshire £258,635

Taylor, Mr Laurence Claude, of Exmouth, Devon £277,881

Woodall, Mrs Jane Elizabeth, of Holmes Chapel, Cheshire £228,508

Garcia, Mr William Henry, of Cranleigh, Surrey £446,136

Luncheons

Royal College of Surgeons of England
Professor Geoffrey Slaney, President of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, yesterday entertained at luncheon at the college Sir Gerald Thorley, Mr M. N. Menzies-Wilson and Mr Lorimer Fison.

Loriners' Company
The Loriners' Company held a Court luncheon yesterday at Founders' Hall. The Master, Councillor Norman N. Freedman, presided and the other speakers were the Under Warden, Mr Arthur J. Gunton, and Mr S. J. Rowbotham. The guests included the Archdeacon of London, Colonel I. A. Ferguson and Commissioner G. D. McLean.

Diesel Engineers and Users Association
Mr J. G. Dilliway, president, was in the chair at the annual luncheon of the Diesel Engineers and Users Association held at the Porter Tun Rooms yesterday. The principal speakers were Mr Diamuid Downs and Mr Peter Rost, MP.

Doctor of the Year
At the Doctor of the Year luncheon held at the Savoy Hotel yesterday the Chairman of the BUPA Medical Foundation, Mr Stanley Glynn, presided. Citations were read by Dr Bryan Lewis and the awards presented by Lord Wigoder, QC, Chairman of BUPA. The principal speaker was the Very Rev Lawrence Jackson, Provost of Blackburn.

Dinners

Two Cities Dining Club
Mr Patrick Jenkin, MP., accompanied by Mrs Jenkin was the guest of honour at a dinner of the Two Cities Dining Club held at the St Ermin's Hotel yesterday. Mr Kenneth Dibben presided.

All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club
The annual dinner of The All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club was held yesterday at the Institute of Directors. Air Chief Marshal Sir Brian Burnett, Chairman, presided. Sir Michael Havers, QC, MP, proposed the toast of the guests and the guest of honour, Lord Orr-Ewing, replied.

Conference for Independent Further Education
The annual conference for Independent Further Education was held in Tonbridge last weekend. At the conference dinner Dr. R. M. W. Rickett, Director of the Middlesex Polytechnic, was guest of honour and replied to the toast to the guests proposed by the chairman-elect, Mr Richard Smart. Guests included:
Mrs R M W Rickett, Professor and Mrs D W Bowett, Mr A O H Quick (Headmaster of Bradfield College), the Headmaster of Tonbridge School and Mrs C H D Everett, Dr W A Holmes-Walker (Skinners' Company), and Mr P Coen (head of the European Business School).

Royal Automobile Club
At the annual dinner of the Chess Circle of the Royal Automobile Club held last night Mr Harry Golombek presented the Hamilton Russell Trophy, competed for by some of the West End clubs, to Mr Roger Smolski, captain of the RAC team.

The dinner was chaired by Mr H. C. Mutkin and Mr H. Golombek; Mr W. R. Hartston and Mr R. G. Wade attended as guests. Mr D. K. Birley was presented with the Sir Clarence Sadd Cup as winner of the major interclub competition.

Service dinners

RNC Greenwich
At a mess dinner held at the Royal Naval College, Greenwich yesterday members of the staff of the Commander in Chief, Naval Home Command were entertained as the principal guests. Commander A. H. F. Wilks, RN, president of the mess, welcomed the staff and Captain A. A. Waugh, RN, responded on their behalf.

Royal Corps of Transport
The Director General of Transport and Movements, Major-General W. M. Allen, held a dinner last night at Regent's Park Barracks Officers' Mess. The principal guests were: Lieutenant-General Sir Paul Travers, Major-General Harold I. Small, US Army, Colonel J. E. Stallard, US Army, and Mr E. W. B. Lewis.

Chief Scientist (Army) Pool of Technical Staff and Technical Intelligence Staff Officers (TA)
Officers of the Chief Scientist (Army) Pool of Technical Staff and Technical Intelligence Staff Officers (TA), held their annual dinner yesterday at the Offiziersheim, Neubiberg, Munich, West Germany. Lieutenant-Colonel B. D. McCulloch presided. The guests included Professor R. Wienecke, president of the Hochschule der Bundeswehr, and Colonel M. R. Vernon Powell, Commandant, JATE.

Memorial services

The Earl of Ancaster
The Queen was represented by the Marquess of Cholmondeley at a memorial for the Earl of Ancaster held at St Margaret's, Westminster, yesterday. Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester, Patron of the British Limbless Ex-Servicemen's Association, was represented by Miss Jean Maxwell-Scott and Princess Alexandra by the Hon Angus Ogilvy. Canon Trevor Beeson officiated, assisted by the Rev G. T. Roberts, who led the prayers. Lady Willoughby de Eresby (daughter) and Mr Philip Grimes, Agent for the Grimsthorpe Estate, Bourne, Lincolnshire, read the lessons. The Speaker was represented by Mr Bernard Weatherill, MP. Others present included:

Lady Priscilla Aird and Lady Catherine Hume (sisters), Brigadier Sir Simon Heathcote and other members of the family; the Marquess of Lansdowne, the Countess of Birkenhead, the Earl and Countess of Dalhousie, the Countess of Cranbrook, Countess Fitzwilliam, Viscount Ward of Witley, Viscount Head, Dorothea Viscountess Head, Viscount and Viscountess Astor, the Dowager Viscountess Hambleden, Lord Ramsay, Margaret Lady Grotton, Lord Brownlow, Lord Margadale, Lord Allerton, Lord and Lady Dacre of Glanton, Lord and Lady St Levan, Baroness Elliot of Harwood, Lady Rhyl, Jacqueline Lady Killearn, Lord and Lady Balfour of Inchrye, Lord and Lady Monson, Lady Alexandra Metcalfe, Lady Jean Rose, Lady Sarah Keswick, Lady Lettice Ashley-Cooper, Lady Mary Dunn.

The Hon Mrs Pretyman, the Hon Aylmer Tryon, the Hon Mrs Bridge, the Hon Mrs Reginald Winn, the Hon Mrs Mark Wyndham, the Hon Jacob and Mrs Rothschild, the Hon David Astor, the Hon Mrs Sarah Baring, the Hon Peter Brooke, MP, the Hon Julian Guest, the Hon Lady Assheton-Smith, the Hon Mrs Judy Astor, the Hon Pauline Astor, the Hon Lady Cotterell, the Hon John Ramsay, the Hon L D and Mrs Verney, Crista Lady Bruce, Sir James and Lady Bruce, Sir Joshua and the Hon Lady Rowley, Sir Bernard Waley-Cohen, Lady Nugent, Sir Giles Floyd, Sir John and Lady Aird, Lady Morland, Sir Kenneth Lewis, MP, Lady Abrahams, Sir Basil Nield, Sir Noel and Lady Moynihan, Sir Austin Bunch (president, BLESMA) and Lady Bunch, Sir Edward Ford, Lady (Randle) Feilden, Sir Marcus Kimball, MP, and Lady Kimball, Sir John Colville, Air Chief Marshal Sir Augustus Walker, Professor and the Hon Mrs Mike Faber, Mr and the Hon Mrs John Lucas-Tooth, Mrs Bronwen Astor.

Mr and Mrs Robert Philippi, Mr and Mrs Barry Black, Miss Susan Aird, Miss Amanda Aird, Rupert, Mark and Peyto Verney, Mr Peter Breese, Mr Reginald Grenfell, Professor Kathleen Tillotson, Mr Eric de Rothschild, Mr Michael Johnston, Mrs Winifred Christie, Mr and Mrs Alastair McCorquodale, Mr Jack Gold, Mr Kenneth Wagg, Mr Ralph Cobbold, Mrs Thomas Dunne, Mr and Mrs John Mallet, Mr and Mrs George Christie, Mr Robert Hay, Miss Nell Dunn, Mr Gregory Hood, Mr Neil McCorquodale, Mr John Profumo, Mr M J Hussey.

Mr and Mrs M J Babington-Smith, Miss Lucy Astor, Mr Jack Boles (National Trust), Mr and Mrs David Astor, Mrs Peter Cazalet, Mr John Lowther, Mr Richard Astor, Mr John Partridge, Mr Archie Stirling of Keir, Mrs R Sherbrooke, Mr Mark Richard Norman, Mr and Mrs Nicholas Ridley, Mr and Mrs Robert Armstrong.

Mr Peter Ryde, Mr and Mrs William Mostyn-Owen, Mr J O Hambro, Mrs G T Roberts, Mr F Town, Miss Elizabeth Winn, Mr Francis Ricardo, Mr Ian Rankin, Mr Michael Tree, Mr W R Rees-Davies, QC, MP, Mr Andrew Bowden, MP, and Mrs Bowden, Mr Ivor Bulmer-Thomas (Friends of Friendless Churches), Mr D L Bird (Tennyson Society), Mrs T F Trollope-Bellew (representing the Barholm Estate and employees of the Casewick Estate), Mrs P B Farrant and Mr I Mitchell (Tay Salmon Fisheries Company), Mr Basil Death (president, International Gun Dog League), Mr Philip Dixon (national chairman, BLESMA) and Mrs Dixon, Mr John Humphries and Mr Peter Duffield (Travers Smith), Mr Gordon Isaacs (Vessa) and Mrs Joan Brander (Wing Followship Trust).

Mr V. Bartlett
The Speaker was represented by Mr Ernest Armstrong, MP, at a service of thanksgiving for the life of Mr Vernon Bartlett held at St Bride's, Fleet Street, yesterday. Prebendary Dewi Morgan officiated, assisted by the Rev Peter Clarke. Mr John Wing read from *The Rock* by T. S. Elliot and Mr Leonard Miall gave an address. Mr Edward Heath, MP, attended and others present included:

Mrs Bartlett (widow), Mr and Mrs Dennis Bartlett (son and daughter-in-law), Mrs A. Bartlett (daughter-in-law), Mr Nicholas Bartlett (grandson), Miss Caroline Bartlett (granddaughter), Mrs I Foster, Mr and Mrs W Foster, Miss B Penn-Bull, Mrs Victor Temple.

Mr Tom King (Secretary of State for the Environment), Lady Caroline Gilmour, Sir Edward Pickering (vice-chairman, Times Newspapers), Sir William Goode, Sir Geoffrey Cox, Lady Wallinger, Mr Seamus Burke and Miss E Lakeman (Electoral Reform Society), Mr Michael Gilbert, Mr Dennis Walters, MP, Mr Harold Sorel, Mr Louis Heren, Mrs Leonard Miall, Mr Alastair Forbes, Mr A H P Humphrey, Mr John Grigg, Mr David Gilmour, Mr Philip Walkins (Bridgewater Division Liberal Association), Mr Maurice Lancaster (Beefsteak Club), Mr George Vine, Mr and Mrs Tom Baistow, Mr A H K Slater, Mr and Mrs Peter Farley, Mr Paul Hobhouse, Mr Russell Foreman, Mr Neil Hughes-Onslow, Mr George Clark, Mrs Paul Willert and Mr and Mrs Philip Robinson.

Brigadier H. S. Hopkinson
A memorial service for Brigadier Harry Sutherland Hopkinson was held in the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks, yesterday. The Rev J. S. Westmuckett officiated, assisted by the Rev David Ashburner. Mr Christopher Hopkinson (son) read the lesson and Major-General Sir Roy Redgrave gave an address. Among those present were:

Mrs Hopkinson (widow), Mr and Mrs Timothy Hills (son-in-law and daughter), James Hills (grandson), Mr and Mrs Michael Cullum (brother-in-law and sister-in-law), Mrs Charles Banks.

Major-General Lord Michael Fitzalan Howard (Colonel, The Life Guards), Lord Fairhaven, Lady Waleran, Colonel the Hon Julian and Mrs Berry, Lieutenant-Colonel Sir James Scott, General Sir Desmond Fitzpatrick (representing The Blues and Royals), Major-General Sir Philip Ward, Lieutenant-General Sir Maurice Johnston, Colonel Sir Henry Abel Smith, Lady (Roy) Redgrave, Major and the Hon Mrs E de Lisle, Major-General and the Hon Mrs D J Tabor.

Major-General John Willis, Brigadier P R Body (representing The Queen's Dragoon Guards), Brigadier S C Cooper, Brigadier J Woodroffe, Major Gavin Tweedie (representing Regimental Headquarters, Household Cavalry), Archdeacon John Youens, the Rev W Glazebrook, Mr and Mrs P Levene, Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs D J Daly, Mr J N P Watson, Mr A J Quayle (representing Alvis), Mr and Mrs Ian Barclay, Major Peter Lendrum, Colonel J D Smith-Bingham, Colonel and Mrs Denis Matthews, Colonel J S Martin, Mr John Hayward, Major H T Hayward, Mrs D W Hayward, Miss Helen Hayward, Mr Edmund Hayward, Miss M Hayward, Colonel and Mrs Arthur Gooch, Mr Anthony Spink, Colonel D H S L Maitland-Titterton, Mr P M Eveleigh (Avimo), the Rev W Thomas, Lieutenant-Colonel D Meakin, Mr J M W Chadwick (Christ Church Beagles), Mr K R Wing (Oxford Beagles), Lieutenant-Colonel R J Mackeness, Colonel and Mrs Derek Clapham and Lieutenant-Colonel David Wilkinson.

Christening

The infant daughter of Mr and Mrs Nigel Hodges was christened Sophie Louisa by Canon Anthony Caesar in the Chapel Royal, St James's Palace on Saturday, April 23, 1983. The godparents are Mr David Hodges, Mr Jeremy Palmer, Miss Marie-Louise Palmer, Mrs David Pritchard and Miss Caroline Robertson.

Builders Merchants' Company

The following officers of the Builders Merchants' Company have been elected to serve for the year from October 19, 1983: Master, Mr Michael A Wright; Senior Warden, Mr Maurice H Vinden; Junior Warden, Mr John S Faulder; Keeper of the Roll, Mr David B Wilson.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:

Mr Peter Unwin to be Ambassador to Hungary, in succession to Mr B. G. Cartledge who will be taking up a further Diplomatic Service appointment.

Mr Richard Lawrence to be music director of the Arts Council in succession to Dr Basil Deane, who is to be director of the Hongkong Academy of the Performing Arts.

Lord Romsey to be chairman of Solent Cablevision the consortium which plans to provide cable television in part of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

Professor R. O. C. Norman FRS, of York University, to be Chief Scientific Adviser to the Ministry of Defence.

Legal

Mr Christopher Hord, QC to be a Circuit Judge on the South-eastern Circuit.

The following to be Recorders on the South-eastern Circuit:
Mr P. C. Bowsher, QC, Mr P. N. Brandt, Mr H. Brooke, QC, Mr H. B. H. Carlisle, QC, mr G. H. Coombe, QC, Mr E. J. R. Crowther, Mr K. M. Devlin, Mr W. R. Fitch, Mr P. J. Halnan, Mr G. E. Heggs, Mr R. A. Henderson, QC, Major-General Sir David Hughes-Morgan, Mr M. J. Hyam, Mr P. J. E. Jackson, Mr T. Lawrence, Mr M. E. Lewer, QC, Mr L. J. Libbert, QC, Mr R. H. Lownie, Mr H. J. Montlake, Mr T. R. G. F. Ryland, Mr R. J. Southan, Mr N. Taylor, QC, Mr C. J. M. Tyrer, Mr E. G. Wrintmore.

University news

Oxford
The Rev Vivian Green, Sub-Rector of Lincoln College, has been elected Rector of the college in succession to Lord Trend, who retires in September after 10 years.

Awards
Maxwell prize for law moderations, 1983: J J Harris, St Peter's College; Brian Johnson prize in pathology, 1982: divided between R Gundle, BA, St Catherine's College (two thirds) and Lesley A Ayling, BA, New College (one third); Cyril Jonnes memorial prize, 1983: Rafaela S M Gunner, Wadham College; Mrs Claude Beddington modern languages prize, 1983: M J Trevelyan, Brasenose College; Andrew Colin prize, 1983: M J Trevelyan; Marjorie Countess of Warwick travelling bursary, 1983: Alison M Clark, Christ Church; Sir John Rhys studentships in Celtic studies, 1983-4: Edel M Bhreathnach, BA, University College, Dublin, J T Koch, BA, North-western University, Illinois.

Elections
EXETER COLLEGE: To honorary fellowships: Professor J M Ashworth, DSc, Sir James Gowans, FRS, J F Leddy, MA, DPhil, G Robertson, MA.
ST HILDA'S COLLEGE: To a McIlrath junior research fellowship for two years from October, 1983: Miss Penelope M Couk, MA (PhD Lond); to a Julia Mann junior research fellowship for two years from October, 1983: Miss Elizabeth J Garnett, BA; to a John Lewis and Shell fellowship from April to July, 1984: Mrs Dorothy Venables, BSc (soc) MSc (Lond); To lectureships: in modern history for two years from October, 1983: J Spurr, BA; in English for one year from October, 1983: Mrs Lyndall F Gordon, MA (PhD Columbia); in politics for two years from October, 1983: R M Knowles, BA; to schoolmistress studentships, for Hilary Term, 1984: Mrs Sheila B Hooker (BA Lond), head of Classics, Kendrick School, Reading; for Trinity Term, 1984: Miss Margaret G Ferguson (BSc, PhD Edin), chemistry teacher and head of careers, King Edward VI School, Louth; to graduate studentships for one year from October, 1983: Tethys L Carpenter, St Hilda's College, Nicolette C Jones, BA, St Hilda's.

OBITUARY

COUNT RUCELLAI
Preservation of Florentine palazzo

Mr John Bury writes:

Many English and American visitors to Florence will remember with affection Bernardo Rucellai, for the past thirty years head of the ancient family of that name, who died on April 23 at the age of 84.

Conscious of his responsibilities as owner of the celebrated town house designed by Leon Battista Alberti, in which his family had lived continuously since it was built in the mid 15th century, he devoted a large part of his energies and resources to its preservation, with the loyal support of his wife, his sister and his younger brother. The erosion of the sandstone facade had gone dangerously far, but thanks to determined efforts the deterioration was arrested and the crumbling surface stabilized; so that lovers of Florence and admirers of Renaissance architecture will in future generations unknowingly owe him and his family a great debt of gratitude.

In his conscientious devotion to the traditions of his family he followed the example of his mother, the American heiress Edith Bronson, who had successfully reacquired several Rucellai properties alienated in previous generations.

Perhaps the most notable event in the gradual process of recovering former possessions was the purchase by Count Rucellai from the heirs of Lord Westbury of the collection of observations, memoirs and moral precepts known as the *Zibaldone* compiled by his ancestor Giovanni, builder of the family house, and of the facade of the Rucellai family church of Santa Maria Novellae, and patron and friend of Leon Battista Alberti.

Substantial parts of this *Zibaldone*, followed by a series of studies by leading Renaissance scholars, were published by the Warburg Institute in 1960 and 1982. The appearance of these volumes, which provide a unique insight into the mind of a Quattrocento Florentine patrician, was made possible by the help and encouragement given at every stage by Count and Countess Rucellai.

Socially, Bernardo Rucellai quietly, and with a dry, gentle humour, supported his talented and versatile wife Christina (née Niccolini), renowned for her artistic sensibilities, charm and vivacity as a hostess. He exemplified the old fashioned Italian gentleman and could well be described as an "original in our time".

The ruling principles which guided his life were a sense of duty and piety, in the best sense of that word. This piety was expressed not only through being a devout Catholic, who read and inwardly digested the works of St Thomas Aquinas, but also by his integrity, his generosity and his loyalty to his country his native city, his family and his friends.

His Tuscan patriotism sometimes came out in surprizing ways. Motoring in Florence some years ago he was held up by road works and heard one of the road menders swearing. Getting out of his car he went up to the man and said to him: "Sir, we are Tuscans, so have to set an example of good speech. That is our duty, so we shouldn't use swear words, however cross we may feel or however provoking the circumstances". This was said in so serious yet friendly a tone that the road mender apologized, thanked him and promised to try to remember his duty better in future.

MR CHARLES CLEMENTS

Huw Ceredig writes:

The death has occurred at the age of 84 of Charles Henry Clements, MBE, FRCO, who retired in 1963 after 44 years' service to the Music Department of University College of Wales, Aberystwyth. He was first appointed in 1919 as Assistant to the then Gregynog Professor of Music, Sir Walford Davies, became a Lecturer in 1926 and Senior Lecturer in 1954. In the meantime he had served as Acting Head of Department from 1948 to 1950.

Charlie Clements, as he was known to generations of Welsh musicians and music-lovers, was born in Aberystwyth in 1898 and only rarely and reluctantly left that town.

His musical education was of the sound small-town variety until his horizons became broadened by the arrival of a group of Belgian professional musicians in Aberystwyth as First World War evacuees. Their influence seems to have propelled an immensely talented schoolboy (whose home-from-home for some years was at the piano in the local silent-movie house) to a Lafontaine Prize of the Royal College of Organists, twice over, before he was out of his teens.

Given Charlie Clement's unassuming nature and complete lack of worldly ambition it was inevitable that for a half-century and more he should occupy a central position in Welsh musical life while being taken largely for granted by those whom he served. A notable exception exists in the case of Siloh Chapel, Aberystwith, where Charlie Clements was appointed organist in 1917, where he designed and supervised the construction of a new instrument, and where both the fortieth and fiftieth anniversaries of his tenure were fittingly celebrated. During these years he applied the same care and professionalism to the accompaniment of a six-year-old singer in a children's service as to that of any visiting celebrity.

Charlie Clements worked with almost every singer of distinction of that era and with many of the postwar period also; among the instrumentalists who appreciated his work was the renowned violinist Jelly d'Aranyi, who more than once tried unsuccessfully to persuade Charlie to travel as her accompanist. He worked with Adolf Brodsky (the first violinist to perform the Tchaikovsky concerto) towards the end of his career and with Gwyneth Jones towards the outset of hers.

His first of very many broadcasts as solo pianist, accompanist and organist was made from Cardiff in 1924. No one at Aberystwyth, and few in the whole Principality, have given more to Welsh musical life.

MR C. G. HOLLAND-MARTIN

Mr Cyril George Holland-Martin, who for some 30 years played a leading role in the technical development of British Tabulating Machine Company Ltd. (which later became International Computers Ltd.), died on April 12 at his home in Overbury, Worcestershire.

Born on April 23, 1902, he was educated at Eton and Christ Church, Oxford. Having gained experience in several major engineering companies on both sides of the Atlantic, he joined BTM at Letchworth in 1933, becoming the director responsible for research and development in 1951 until his retirement in 1964. He therefore participated in the huge and rapid changes as data processing evolved from the punch card era to the computer age. He was instrumental in the founding of the European Computer Manufacturers Association in 1961, becoming its first president.

During his Oxford days, he became intrigued by three emerging sports: skiing, ocean-racing and flying. He was one of the original members of the Royal Ocean Racing Club (founded by his cousin, George Martin) and over the next half century he sailed with leading yachtsmen in all the United Kingdom ocean races, including the Fastnet, as well as the Bermuda race, crossing the Atlantic to do so. He was also an active member of the Ocean Cruising Club.

Parallel with these maritime activities he learnt to fly, owning his own aircraft, and becoming a member of the Royal Auxilliary Air Force. When the Second World War broke out he joined the R.A.F., attaining the rank of squadron leader.

In 1940 he was posted to Canada to train British airmen, and then returned to Britain in 1943 for other duties. Because of his knowledge of data processing, he was consulted in the early stages over the setting up of the system at Bletchley which was used to decipher the Enigma Code.

Cyril Holland-Martin was the last surviving of the six sons of Robert and Eleanor Holland-Martin (of the Martins banking family), and his death ends a family generation who made a marked impact on such diverse fields as banking, computers, the Royal Navy, agriculture, politics, horse-racing and sailing.

In community affairs he was Chairman of the Juvenile Bench at Hitchin, and after his retirement to Worcestershire he became a magistrate at Evesham. He was active in Worcester diocesan affairs, and was a trustee of the Tewkesbury Abbey Lawn Trust.

In 1933 he married Rosa Chadwyck-Healey; he is survived by her, two of his three sons and his daughter.

EMANUEL WAX

Emanuel Wax, author, theatrical manager and literary agent, known in the profession as Jimmy Wax, died in Ramsbury on April 23 in his seventy-second year. Born in London on May 1, 1911, he took a First Class degree in Law at New College, Oxford, and combined a legal practice with writing and translating plays from the French. With Rudolf Cartier he wrote *Murder in the Studio*, one of the first original television dramas to be broadcast by the BBC.

During the war he served in Intelligence and later in the legal division of 21 Army Group in Germany.

He formed his own agency (ACTAC Ltd) commissioning new drama, and representing such authors as Christopher Fry and Harold Pinter, and presented plays in the provinces and London, sometimes under his own management.

Most recently he served as a director of H. M. Tennant Ltd, while promoting film and television production on both sides of the Atlantic.

Law Report April 29 1983 Queen's Bench Division

Court refuses to declare suicide booklet unlawful

Attorney General v Able and Others
Before Mr Justice Woolf
[Judgment delivered April 28]

The Attorney General was refused declarations in the Queen's Bench Division that the supply of a booklet entitled *A Guide to Self Deliverance* in specified circumstances was an offence under section 2(1) of the Suicide Act 1961 since that would amount to declaring that future conduct was criminal when that conduct was not clearly in contravention of the criminal law and when in each case the jury would have to decide whether the necessary facts were proved.

The Attorney General claimed by an originating summons declarations against the defendants who were members of the executive committee of the Voluntary Euthanasia Society, publishers of the booklet.

Section 2(1) of the 1961 Act provides: "A person who aids, abets, counsels or procures the suicide of another, or an attempt by another to commit suicide, shall be liable on conviction on indictment to imprisonment for a term not exceeding fourteen years".

Mr Simon D. Brown and Mr Stephen Aitchison for the Attorney General; Mr Geoffrey Robertson and Mr Andrew Nicoll for the members of the society.

MR JUSTICE WOOLF said that her Majesty's Attorney General applied for a declaration that in specified circumstances the distribution of a booklet entitled *A Guide to Self Deliverance* which was published by the Voluntary Euthanasia Society was unlawful as being either an offence or an attempted offence under section 2(1) of the Suicide Act 1961.

The society was an unincorporated association of members and its purpose included working for the legalization of voluntary euthanasia.

The respondents to the proceedings who were members of the executive committee of the society, contended that this was not a proper case for the court to exercise its jurisdiction to grant declaratory relief since it was for the criminal courts to apply the criminal law and if the law was unclear the proper body to clarify the law was Parliament and not the courts. They also submitted that the distribution of the booklet was not unlawful.

The booklet was first distributed in June 1981 and there had since been a considerable demand for it. His Lordship was aware of the serious debate as to whether or not voluntary euthanasia should be legalized but was not in any way concerned with the morality of voluntary euthanasia or the morality of publishing and distributing the booklet. The court's sole concern was with the legal issues between the parties and the lawfulness of distributing the booklet.

No suggestion had been made on behalf of the Attorney General that if it was lawful to distribute the booklet, there was anything objectionable about the form or contents of that booklet. If it was appropriate to distribute a booklet dealing with how to end one's life, then the booklet provided a satisfactory treatment which it would not be easy to improve upon.

The booklet could deter a would-be suicide but it would in many cases assist the recipient to commit suicide when he might not otherwise succeed in doing so. His Lordship referred to extracts from the booklet in some detail in order to give effect to the balanced nature of its contents, although its full effect could only be obtained by reading it as a whole.

His Lordship went on to deal with the question of the propriety of the civil courts granting declaratory relief in cases involving the criminal law. He accepted that there could be circumstances where it was appropriate to give declaratory relief.

If it was open to a private individual to obtain such relief in exceptional circumstances, it was certainly open to the Attorney General to do so since his right to seek the assistance of the civil courts in upholding the criminal law had been fully recognized: see *Attorney General v Bastow* ([1957] 1 QB 514).

There were, however, differences between the present case and other cases where declaratory relief had been granted in aid of the criminal law. Declarations were being sought that certain conduct was criminal not that certain conduct was not criminal.

The declarations were addressed to future distributions of the booklet and it was a real possibility that if a declaration was granted, but despite that, further distributions took place, there could be a criminal prosecution.

That made it particularly important that the court should bear in mind the danger of usurping the jurisdiction of the criminal courts.

The Attorney General was in a position to obtain declarations as to the law from the Court of Appeal Criminal Division on an Attorney General's reference.

However, while the court's decision on such references frequently clarified the law, the court did so in relation to specific facts which were before it.

Furthermore, if a court declared what cnduct would be criminal, it might be performing exactly the task which the jury would have to perform at a criminal trial. If a court ruled that conduct was not criminal, it was performing a similar function to the judge at a criminal trial who stopped the case on a submission of no case to answer.

While recognizing the advantages of the application of the law being clear in relation to future conduct it would only be proper to grant a declaration if it was clearly established that there was no risk of treating conduct as criminal which was not clearly in contravention of the criminal law.

Adopting that standard, his Lordship would consider whether on the evidence, the Attorney General had established that he was entitled to the declaratory relief sought.

Section 1 of the 1961 Act abrogated the criminal responsibility of suicide, but section 2(1) retained the criminal liability of an accessory at or before the fact.

The accessory was the principal offender so that to attempt to aid, abet, counsel or procure the suicide or attempted suicide of another could be an offence even if the person concerned did not attempt to commit suicide.

If the distribution of the booklet amounted to an offence under section 2(1) when the person to whom the booklet was distributed committed suicide or attempted to commit suicide, then the distribution to that person if there was no attempt to commit suicide could be an attempt to commit an offence under section 2(1) in the appropriate circumstances.

The issue could be confined to considering whether to distribute the booklet to someone who committed suicide or attempted to commit suicide made the distributor "an accessory before the fact" to the suicide or the attempted suicide.

In the ordinary case in deciding whether or not an offence had been committed, it was preferable to consider the phrase "aiding or abetting, counselling or procuring" as a whole.

The first minimum requirement to constitute a person an accessory before the fact, was that those responsible for publishing the booklet would almost certainly know that a significant number of those to whom the booklet was intended to be sent would be contemplating suicide. They would not know precisely the details of the suicide, if it took place, but that did not mean that they could not be shown to be accessories.

Second, if the recipients attempted to commit or committed suicide, the contents of the booklet indicated that the publishers approved or assented to their doing so.

The final minimum requirement was that in the case at least of certain recipients of the booklet, its contents would encourage suicide.

His Lordship came clearly to the conclusion that there could be circumstances in which to supply the booklet could amount to an offence.

The fact that the supply of the booklet could be an offence did not mean that any particular supply was an offence. The society was an unincorporated body and there could be no question of the society committing an offence.

Before an offence under section 2 could be proved it had to be shown that the individual concerned aided and abetted, counselled or procured an attempt at suicide or a suicide and intended to do so by distributing the booklet.

The intention of the individual would normally be inferred from the facts surrounding the particular supply. As a matter of principle, as long as there was the necessary intent to assist those who were contemplating suicide, it did not matter that the supplier did not know the state of mind of the actual recipient.

The requirement for the necessary intent explained why where in the ordinary course of business a person responsible for distributing an article appreciating that some individuals might use it for committing suicide was not guilty of an offence.

Such a distributor would have no intention to assist the act of suicide. An intention to assist need not, however, involve a desire that suicide should be committed or attempted.

His Lordship accepted that in some cases the booklet might have the effect of deterring someone from committing suicide and such a supply would not amount to an attempted offence because the booklet had not provided any assistance with a view to a contemplated suicide. Such assistance was necessary to establish the *actus reus* for the attempted offence.

His Lordship concluded that to distribute the booklet could be an offence but before an offence could be established to have been committed, it had to be proved that the alleged offender had the necessary intent, that is, he intended the booklet to be used by someone contemplating suicide and intended that person would be assisted by the booklet, and that while he still had that intention he distributed the booklet to such a person who was assisted or encouraged by reading the booklet to attempt to take or to take his own life. Otherwise the alleged offender could not be guilty of more than an attempt.

If those facts could be proved, then it did not make any difference that the person would have tried to commit suicide anyway. Nor did it make any difference that the information was already in the public domain.

The distinguishing feature between innocent and guilty distribution was that in the former case the distributor would not have the necessary intent while in the latter case he would. In each case, it would be for a jury to decide whether the necessary facts were proved.

Difficulties were created by granting any form of declaration to the Attorney General. However, since the supply of the booklet could amount to an offence, the respondents could not be granted a declaration that no offence was committed.

No declaration had been produced which would not have the effect of indicating an offence had been committed when in fact no offence would have been committed and having examined the facts and the law, there was no form of declaration that it would be appropriate to grant.

Any clarification of the law had to come not as a result of the granting of a declaration but from the limited assistance given in the course of the judgment.

One happy consequence was that both parties would be at liberty to appeal and no doubt as a result of such an appeal all would be made clear. If it was not, only Parliament could provide the answer.

Solicitors: Treasury Solicitor; Simons Muirhead Allan & Burton.

THE ARTS

Cinema

Seriousness woven into comedy

Tootsie (PG)
Odeon Leicester Square

A Shocking Accident (PG)
Odeon Leicester Square

Ascendancy (15)
Academy

Barbarosa (PG)
Screen on the Green

Ill Fares the Land
ICA

"I was a better man with you as a woman than I ever was with a woman as a man". Dustin Hoffman tells Jessica Lange in the final minutes of Tootsie after divesting himself of wig, dress, make-up, dazzling smile and southern accent. The convoluted sentence, blithely delivered across a Manhattan pavement, triumphantly sums up the film's comic games with sexual identities, unparalleled in mainstream Hollywood since *Some Like It Hot*. It also spotlights the serious thoughts about human behaviour woven into the comedy – a mixture that has helped *Tootsie* become the biggest American box-office success ever produced by Columbia.

Sydney Pollack's film impresses with its acuity and assurance even during the credit sequence. As Hoffman's embattled New York actor runs the gauntlet of doomed auditions, we sit back comfortable in the knowledge that performers, director and scriptwriters (Larry Gelbart and Murray Schisgal) know their business precisely. All, indeed, have considerable experience of show business vicissitudes; Pollack himself began as an actor before turning to direction, and contributes a sharp, effective cameo as Hoffman's bewildered agent. The comedy remains bright-eyed as financial pressure transforms Hoffman's Michael Dorsey into "Dorothy Michaels" – a southern lady of poise and resilience who lands the part of a hospital administrator in a television serial called *Southwest General*. Anyone with experience of soap opera's crazy world will spot the awful truth behind the film's lampoon: the weathered matinée idol with neither talent nor memory; the actor who finds his character killed off when he requests a raise; the dialogue that sounds "like dialogue from a Czech movie". *Tootsie* recreates the panic and paraphernalia of American television in a way *My Favourite Year* never achieved.

But the film's power principally derives from the extraordinary "Dorothy Michaels". From one standpoint, she is a blatantly theatrical creation, invented to fill a specific soap-opera role. Yet when Jessica Lange sadly murmurs "I miss Dorothy" in the closing minutes we know exactly what she means: Hoffman's astonishing performance has given Dorothy real feminine warmth and individuality. The script acknowledges this, too, by never resorting to sniggers: obvious jokes about sharing a female bed or warding off men's advances are introduced only to be lightly brushed aside. This discretion ultimately leads *Tootsie* into trouble: some scenes ramble without a climax, making the 116 minutes perhaps 16 minutes too long. The script also ungenerously shoves Teri Carr's character – Dorsey's absurdly insecure girlfriend – into a tight, unprofitable corner. But the bulk of the film is thoroughly *entertaining*.

So indeed is the British film accompanying *Tootsie* on national release in many cinemas: A Shocking Accident, winner of this year's Oscar for the best live-action short. Recommending a short film may seem like recommending scarlet fever – so paltry have "full supporting programmes" become over the years. But James Scott's 25-minute version of a Graham Greene story is worlds removed from the documentaries on pearl fishing or Nato submarines occasionally encountered by unwary spectators. The shocking accident happens to the young hero's father: he is killed by an overweight pig crashing through a Naples balcony. Schoolmates consequently taunt the son with grunts; an aunt casually spreads the story during afternoon tea while her nephew cringes with embarrassment. Compared to Scott's previous work – the teasing feature *Adult Fun*, piercing documentaries on art, politics and society – *A Shocking Accident* is a work of modest ambition. But, with its sly humour, crisp structure and pointed visualization of a literary text, one can feel the same playful intelligence at work.



Rapt commitment in a hair-shirt role: Julie Covington in *Ascendancy*

A clear, shaping intelligence similarly governs Edward Bennett's **Ascendancy**, made for the British Film Institute Production Board and winner of the Berlin Festival's Golden Bear award. However, it is hard to write about this pyschological study of Irish disorders in 1920 without dipping into the critic's deadliest adjectives: worthy, commendable, competent. Like Scott, Bennett has experience in provacative documentaries (*Hogarth*, *Four Questions About Art*), and this first step towards conventional narrative procedures shows an effective use of low-budget resources. The scattered locations (none of them in Ireland) afford memorable images: servants frozen in Remembrance Day silence in the grand mansion of James Wintour, a Belfast shipyard owner; the congregation of a Catholic church huddled in sanctuary during a violent night. Yet the striking moments and fascinating background of social decay fail to coalesce into compulsive viewing.

The problem chiefly stems from the depiction of the heroine, Wintour's haunted daughter, whose right arm hangs in phychosomatic paralysis since her beloved brother died in the Great War. Julie Covington, a specialist in hair-shirt roles, plays with her usual rapt commitment, but the character's obsessions never become the audience's, and the script's scheme of political-pyschological parallels remains forever in embryo. The film is compact, decently made, eloquently photographed by Clive Tickner; greater enthusiasm, unfortunately, is impossible.

The comparative failure of **Barbarosa** is equally regrettable, for this is an example of that endangered species, the Western; yet the pleasure of seeing horses charging across Texas must be balanced against the pain of experiencing cinematic muddle. The Australian director Fred Schepisi, working for the first time in America, never finds an appropriate style to link the script's elements. Sometimes *Barbarosa* celebrates the Western myth of the unstoppable hero (Barbarosa himself, played by the country-and-western singer Willie Nelson). Sometimes the film concentrates on a tale of romping robbers and multi-racial family feuds; sometimes it simply soaks up the landscapes, photograghed in Panavision by Ian Baker – Schepisi's cameraman on *The Devil's Playground* (1976) and *The Chant of Jimmie Blacksmith* (1978). But the strands remain unco-ordinated, and erratic post-synchronization only adds to the film's dishevelment. As in *Honeysuckle Rose*, Nelson displays a pleasant, mischevious screen presence, though he lacks the epic charisma his part demands; fans should also note that he never sings anything.

The ICA is going Scottish during May, presenting, amongst other items, the Bill Douglas trilogy and Bill Forsyth's *That Sinking Feeling*. The chief exhibit is **Ill Fares the Land** (May 4-8), a shapeles account of the last months on St Kilda, the far-flung islands off Scotland's west coast, evacuated in 1930. St Kilda is now an American military base, which explains why the film was mostly shot elsewhere. The writer-director, Bill Bryden, of National Theatre fame, recreates the dying world with such loving care that he drags the film down to the slow crawl of the islanders' hymn-singing. One is moved, but not very much.

Geoff Brown

Television

Age of consent

The Mutiny at Invergordon (BBC2 last night) is a story that can always stand a re-telling: the shock-horror story of sailors refusing to do what they were told is a much-examined skeleton in our national cupboard. Appropriately, it was the first in the series *Britain in the Thirties*. The trouble was that there were so many participants to field that the material and potential were too much for the time. Nonetheless, it was a gripping piece of television.

The mutiny arose over pay. Ramsay MacDonald's National Government was vainly trying to keep the gold standard. It cut unemployment benefit by 10 per cent and welcomed the Admiralty's extraordinary offer to pay all men on pre-1925 scales, which meant that many would get a 25 per cent cut.

Their families already suffered considerable hardship, which the Royal Naval Benevolent Fund could not adequately relieve. The cut, which the men of the Atlantic Fleet heard of through a radio broadcast, was the last straw.

After meetings ashore, the mutiny occurred on September 15, 1931. The anchorage at Invergordon echoed all day to the cheers of men on the fo'c'sles of their ships – the method by which they kept up spirits and assured themselves of solidarity.

The programme included recollections from ratings and officers. One of the latter recalled how a beer mug had been thrown at him, an action confirmed by former ratings but evidently untypical. Another former officer reflected on Admiral Tomlinson, standing in for the C-in-C who was ill in Plymouth – "a quiet unpleasant little man" who "was quite unfit to take command of anything".

The Admiralty reacted slowly; the Government thought it a Red plot – it being the fashion to attribute to Reds a cunning almost beyond human capacity. The ships were recalled to their home ports with a promise of inquiries and no victimization. The inquiries were ineffectual; the promise was broken. Len Wincott, one of the leaders who appeared, and 120 others were discharged with 13s. each and a railway warrant. For many others it meant no further promotion. Wincott later joined the Communist Party and went to live in Russia.

The lesson drawn, the programme concluded, was that a twentieth-century navy could only be run with the consent of the men below decks. Something there, I suppose, except that it took a war to drive it home.

Dennis Hackett

Jazz

Follow that . .

Miles Davis
Odeon, Hammersmith

I was wrong when I swore not to see Miles Davis again. That was back in the mid-Seventies when he was thrashing around on a jazz/rock sea like a man on a raft, and I did not want to return to see jazz's greatest modern stylist drown trying to keep up with fashion.

Duty took me back to Hammersmith on Wednesday and there he was, still afloat on the jazz/rock/whatever gulf stream, but now like a man winning the America's Cup, not clinging to wreckage. The difference was spectacular. His trumpet playing had lost all hesitation and become more assured, more fluent, than I have ever heard it. He did things in one breath that might have taken three before – a favourite was playing a choice mid-register phrase, swooping up to a thrilling high note and then spiralling down to a wispy echo of the first phrase, in one long line. Playing fast or high, he never missed a trick; at slow tempo he sounded like the old Davis but better.

This new confidence has led to two amazing revolutions. One is that instead of ignoring the rest of the group he often supports other soloists by simultaneously playing trumpet with the left hand and stabbing keyboard chords with the right, like some one-man big band. The other is that he has broken a 30-year oath to ignore his public and now waves back, flirts with their applause and even comes downstage to tease the photographers. At this rate he will be talking to us by 1985.

His crew moved smoothly to his commands. The saxophonist Bill Evans is lightweight and nimble, Tom Barney and Al Foster make a perfect bass/drums engine team, slipping from thudding rock to the subtlest jazz backing, while Mino Cinelu, off to one side in his Latin American engineering shop, fills in any unnoticed gaps. Up in the rigging, Mike Stern's blues-based guitar is superb stuff, with one solo near the end so full of passion, light and shade it almost stole the show, though John Scofield's jazzier playing, even if fluent, is as monochrome as almost all jazz güitar has been since they first plugged it into the mains.

Prowling everywhere was the captain, liberated from a stand-mike by some miracle trumpet attachment so that he could walk, play and keep an eye on the ship all at the same time. Miles Davis is back on the high seas and in front of the fleet again. I am not sure if he knows his final destination, but I would be a fool not to follow him this time.

Miles Kington

Theatre

Banality banished

Betrayal
Greenwich

Greenwich may seem to be treading on Peter Hall's toes with this premature revival of Harold Pinter's play, but Gary Raymond's production is a very different affair from the original National Theatre version. And, as one of those left cold by that occasion, I am glad to take this belated chance of acknowledging a beautiful piece of work.

Thanks to the scale and glassy performance style of the Lyttelton production, I quit the theatre mainly impressed by Pinter's ingenuity in telling a banal story backwards. At Greenwich, the story comes into close-up and sheds any trace of banality.

The size of the building has something to do with this; but so has the introduction of pop songs for every nostalgically receding date (each song, a learned colleague informs me, belonging to the year in question), the use of lighting (Brian Harris) to convey a sense of mortal transience and, most of all, the performances of Mr Raymond and his two partners, Suzan Farmer and Edward Hardwicke.



Telegraphing the unspoken: Gary Raymond, Suzan Farmer

All my memory preserved of the dialogue was of exchanges of small talk between an affluently anonymous trio whose lives consist of restaurant lunches, book chat, family routine and adultery in the afternoon. The small talk is there all right, but only as a mask behind which each character is observing the others and waiting for his own advantage. Even when conversation is flowing tranquilly along, the staging contrives to telegraph the unspoken.

Witness Miss Farmer's eyes, invisible to her husband, as he prowls round the bedroom speculating on why Jerry should have written to her in Venice. "What do you think of Jerry – as a letter writer?" Mr Hardwicke spits out. And, when she cuts his game short and unambiguously confesses the relationship, her line has the same kind of impact as a climax in Racine.

Details of the multiple betrayal are brilliantly clarified by the sense of what is at stake emotionally. After the Venice scene, Mr Hardwicke tells the lover that the high spot of the trip was a morning he spent alone: an innocent remark brimming with revenge and pain once you consider it. The accumulation of these poisonous ironies is one benefit of the reverse narrative; another is the mordant itinerary from the spiritless end of the affair ("I don't think we don't love each other") to the rapturous opening declarations at the end.

Irving Wardle

Concerts

BBCSO/Sanderling
Festival Hall/Radio 3

Almost as a curtain-raiser to *The Gambler* at the Coliseum, the Royal Philharmonic Society on Wednesday presented another Prokofiev work from that same turbulent period around the First World War, his Second Piano Concerto. Not long ago this was almost as neglected as his Dostoevsky opera, pianists and audiences preferring the gladsome bravura of the Third Concerto or the youthful grand romanticism of the First. But the more sinister contents of the G minor Concerto have begun to insinuate themselves into the repertory, though rarely can they have sounded so dark and poisonous as here in a strong, urgent performance by John Lill and the BBC Symphony Orchestra under Kurt Sanderling.

The story of the first movement is one of progressive confusion and worry. Prokofiev begins with a lyrical theme, the most innocuous music in the whole work, and proceeds to nag at it until it shows its dangerous potentialities in the sort of nasty thick harmony that is characteristic of the work.

Mr Lill was excellent here. He started with a gracefulness unnervingly poised on the brink of catastrophe, and under the pressure of some threatening moves from Mr Sanderling he developed his part through ever stranger regions of gancheness.

The ensuing Scherzo was frantic enough to strain the orchestra a bit and the puppet play of the third movement was no frolic; Mr Lill's movements were bulky and menacing, like dancing gargoyles, and he was now powerfully backed by his colleagues.

After this the finale could hardly be dashed off. The opportunities for carefree jollity, in the repetitive patterns, were taken rather to show how appalling a banal idea can become when it is mindlessly played over and over again, and the few sweet passages from the strings were siren songs that could not interrupt the concerto in its massive, demonic course. Once more Mr Lill moved through every bar with the fearsome drive of wild obsession matched by immense confidence, and his black brilliance was felt in the same measure by Mr Sanderling.

Prefacing this performance had come the musical fairytale *Kikimora*, by Prokofiev's teacher Liadov, a composer whose only engaging trait was the laziness that kept his pieces few and tiny. More to the point was Tchaikovsky's Fifth Symphony, heard after the interval, and complementing the Prokofiev as a four-movement circular journey within the locked sphere of its composer's head.

Despite occasional lapses in important solos, this was a challenging, serious-minded account which constantly – in the way the Scherzo smiled through its tears, for example, or in the depressed dreariness at the start of the finale – found new ways to tell the old emotional narrative.

Paul Griffiths

Alfred Brendel
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Since October last year Alfred Brendel has been on a pilgrimage. Geographically it has taken him through Switzerland, Germany, France, Holland and England; musically it has led him through the labyrinthine emotional complexities of Beethoven's piano sonatas, a medium with which Brendel seems uniquely in tune. His cycle of seven concerts has quite simply been one of the most remarkable and illuminating events to have hit the London platforms for a long while, and his concluding recital on Wednesday was in every sense its alpha and omega.

As in the previous concerts of the series, Wednesday's was marked by careful, imaginative and stimulating programming. The four sonatas were representative not only of the phases of Beethoven's creative life but also of Brendel's rare pianistic refinement. One of Beethoven's earliest sonatas, the fresh, cheery A major, Op 2 No 2, was balanced by the very last, the tense Op 111; at the centre were two of the great "middle period" sonatas, the D major, Op 28, and "Das Lebewohl", Op 81a.

Stylistically, then, there was a logical progression, which in Brendel's sharply defined playing was charted to graphic and revealing effect. In each sonata he played not only with individuality but also with a sense of rightness which left one all but speechless, so naturally did he apply his incomparable techniques to the demands of the music.

It goes without saying that he can call on a kaleidoscopic range of piano tone and produce playing which constantly impresses through its clarity and depth of feeling. But, more than that, each phrase of the music was vested with structural and emotional significance. Nothing was deemed superfluous or unimportant; each sonata was perfectly crafted, perfectly balanced, perfectly characterized.

Moreover, almost at every turn Brendel offered some new insight into a bar, a phrase, a note, even a pause. In the D major Sonata, Op 28, for example, those little tentative thematic fragments uttered just before the start of the recapitulation in the first movement were given with a sense of questioning and doubting which sounded entirely original yet was perfectly placed in context.

And in the last movement of Op 111 the sudden drawing back from the forceful third variation to the pianissimo of the fourth lent the music a harrowing impact, something reinforced by Brendel's commanding performance of the final pages of the sonata – serene, profound and intensely moving.

Brendel sees it as a "moral duty to make music in as visionary, moving, mysterious, thoughtful, amusing, graceful a manner as we are able to". In this cycle his duty was fulfilled with consummate artistry.

Geoffrey Norris

Opera

Werther
Theatre Royal, Glasgow

The sorrows of young Werther are being played out this week in Glasgow in Scottish Opera's new co-production with Netherlands Opera, who first presented it a year ago. But, as Massenet obviously realized, and as Rhoda Levine directing acknowledges, it is Charlotte who initially gripped Goethe's imagination; it is Charlotte whose presence advertises the opera on Scottish Opera's poster; and, with Cynthia Buchan magnificent in the role, it is Charlotte who dominates this production.

Miss Buchan's fluent and perceptive command of the verbal and musical language (the production is, for better or for worse, in French), her ability to inflect and ease in and out of the melodic line, are unmatched by anyone else on stage. Through the strong core of her voice and personality it is the vehicle for a boldly individual, highly intelligent characterization, carefully detailed and powerfully developed.

The dignity and conviction of her Act I declaration that "Albert m'aime – et je suis sa femme" is the touchstone for her tour de force in the central third act. Vocally and physically containing her suppressed emotion until it spills out in her unaccompanied cry of agony and in the rage within her prayer to God, Miss Buchan skilfully paces the revelation of Charlotte's suffering. And when she silently mouths with Werther the words of Ossian she seems to underline the cruel incompatability of her love of a person and his love of love alone.

For Dennis O'Neill emphasizes the emotional isolation of a Werther who is also more than half in love with easeful death. His placidity verges on paralysis; recalling Goethe's own words about embitterment through want of action, he if anything underplays the ardour for life which is surely there too in Massenet's music. But, for all his continually downcast eyes and occasionally swallowed words, it is a compelling performance, well thought through and musically sung.

Rhoda Levine's unobtrusive production lets the changing seasons speak for themselves: like the functional, inoffensive sets of John Conklin with whom she has often worked in the United States she makes no points but gives plenty of space for individual interpretation and movement (particularly imaginative with the children).

Alan Watt is a competent and credible Albert, Deborah Rees a lightweight, perfectly agreeable Sophie, while Brian Bannatyne-Scott as Johann and William McCue as Le Bailli deserve more than a word of praise. Next to Miss Buchan the star of the evening should perhaps be Roderick Brydon, totally at one with Massenet's music, substantiating all that is going on on stage and drawing dramatic playing, lithe and supple with inner detail, from the Scottish Opera Orchestra.

Hilary Finch

MARKET REPORT ● by Michael Clark

Debenhams the target

ACCOUNT DAY: Dealings began, April 25. Dealings end, May 6. Contango Day, May 9. Settlement Day, May 16.

The barricades are going up at Debenhams, the high street department stores chain, including famous names such as Harvey Nichols, Hamleys and Lotus, tipped as the next bid target following the demise of UDS Group.

Earlier this week, Mr Robert Thornton, chairman, and Mr Kenneth Bishop, finance director, had talks with more than twenty City institutions to try to deflect some of the bid speculation and point out the group's growing trading prospects. Sales at Harvey Nichols and Hamleys are running 20 per cent higher than last year with demand for Lotus shoes, suppliers to Marks & Spencer, also picking up.

Mr Thornton said that Debenhams had received several inquiries for its Welbeck Finance subsidiary and had turned down offers amounting to £65m.

Brokers Laurie Millbank is looking for profit of £20m this year against £13.1m last year. Yesterday, the shares held steady at a year's high of 127p as dealers reported a large buyer of 400,000 at 125p. At this level the group is valued at £170m

Mr Gerald Ronsn's Heron Group, bought 1 million shares last month. It is estimated to own nearer 5 million shares now or around 4 per cent of the equity. Last night, Mr Ronson was not available for comment.

The question dealers are asking themselves now is not if a bid will arrive – but when.

The last word on ICI's first-quarter figures yesterday came from Mr Jim Cook, analyst with the Scottish brokers, Wood Mackenzie. Earlier this month, he upgraded full-year estimates by £102m to £462m, but today he will tell clients that this figure should be £500m. The recent strength in sterling against most European currencies, including the Deutschemark, should be more than offset by an improved domestic performance. The shares closed 2p up at a new high of 476p, after reaching 492p.

Elsewhere, the doubled first quarter profits from ICI our biggest industrial group, were the main talking point in the market with the *FT* index again crossing the important 700 mark as more than 5 million shares changed hands. However, profit takers made sure the index failed to hold its best levels and it eventually closed 2.2 down at 696.8.

Leading equities experienced a good day's trading with Beecham closing unchanged at 411p, after 415, Imperial Group 4p up at 116p, after 117p and Allied Lyons 4p up at 149p.

In breweries, Scottish & Newcastle came in for more speculative buying rising 2p to a new high of 89p. Earlier this week, the company denied it had recieved a bid from Seagrams, the Canadian distillers, but the market remains convinced that somebody is interested in the shares.

Cider makers, HP Bulmer, was good for a 5p rise to 261p following a buy recommendation from broker Grenfell Colegrave. They believe cider will continue to be the most buoyant and fastest growing product in the drink sector over the next year. They also urge investors to hold on to their stakes in Merrydown cider, 10p dearer at 550p. Shares of Charles Baynes rose 5p to 38p after James Neill Holdings announced it had sold 1.7 million shares, worth £563,000 24.2 per cent of the equity – to Bank Heusser of Basle at 33p a share.

Shares of Bass rose 8p to 322p yesterday–4p short of the year's high. Broker Scrimgeour, Kemp-Gee says that the sector has hung behind the rest of the market recently and that the shares are expected to perform better in the next few weeks.

On the new issues front, Mr Paul Hamlyn's Octopus Publishing made a disappointing start. Offered by way of a minimum tender price of 275p last week the shares opened at a striking price of 350p and soon rose to 376p. But persistent profit taking soon cut this lead to only 8p by the close of 358p.

Those investors who got cold feet in Bellair Cosmetics last week will be kicking themselves today following yesterday's announcement that the shares had leapt from 75p to 140p following a return from suspension and bid terms from the Liechtenstien group, Wasskon, of a mere 8p a share. Fenton Hill, a private group with 76 per cent of Bellair has agreed to accept the terms.

Trust Securities has fired another salvo in its £105m bid for Percy Bilton. Trust says the Bilton property portfolio has been poorly managed and that 350,000 sq ft of the group's industrial property is unlet. This represents less than 5 per cent of Bilton's portfolio.

But the prospects for Bilton appear far brighter than the picture painted by Trust. More than half Bilton's industrial property is subject to rent reviews over the next 18 months and resulting in a big boost to income. So far Trust has received acceptances totalling only 1 per cent of Bilton's issued shares.

Investment and Finance

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THE TIMES

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STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 698.8 down 2.2
FT Gilts: 81.60 unchanged
FT All Share: 439.34 down 2.17
Bargains: 25,765
Tring Hall USM Index: 172.3 unchanged
Tokyo: 8636.56 up 1.77
Hongkong: 1012.61 down 21.15
New York: Dow Jones Average (latest) 1210.04 up 1.64

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling $1.5595 down 65pts
Index 84.2 unchanged
DM 3.8450
FrF 11.5250
Yen 371.50
Dollar
Index 122.8 up 0.3
DM 2.4635 up 115pts
Gold
$429 down $2.50
NEW YORK LATEST
Gold $428.50
Sterling $1.5595

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Base rates 10
3 month interbank 10¼-10⅛

Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 8⅞-9
3 month DM 5 1/16-4 15/16
3 month 13⅛-13

ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period March 2 to April 5, 1983 inclusive: 10.974 per cent.

PRICE CHANGES

Davies & Newman 181p up 31p
Bodycote 59p up 6p
Websters 75p up 7p
Grosvenor 144p up 13p
J. Laing 112p up 10p
B. Elliott 36p up 3p
Comb Tech 39p down 6p
Venterspost £11.6875, down £1.375
Lake & Elliot 27p down 3p
Doornfontein £17.875, down £1.875
Winklehaak £26.375, down £2.75
W. Rand Cons 599p, down 61p

TODAY

Interims: None announced
Finals: Clayton, Son and Co (Hldgs), Cole Grp, Hopkinsons Hldgs, IMI, Liberty, Long and Hambly (17 months), Pentland Inds, Sunlight Service Grp.
Economic statistics; Balance of payments current account and overseas trade figures (March).

Hoover trading profits improve

Hoover, the domestic appliance group, continued to improve its trading performance in the first quarter of the year, even though it was still in loss at the pretax level. The figure was £736,000 against £1.9m for the same period last year.

At the trading level there was a profit of £66,000 against a loss of £916,000. The group reduced staff by 900 last year, to 5,900 but this year any further cut backs will be small. An average price rise of about 5 per cent is coming through shortly. Hoover says it has been obtaining better profits even without price rises, by introducing new higher margined products.

The company's borrowings have been reduced, so that interest payments for the period were £492,000 against £1m for the same time last year. Group sales were up by 8.2 per cent, at £48m.

● DEALINGS BAN: J&P *Coated*, the Scottish thread manufacture, was banned by the High Court in London yesterday from dealings in the shares or assets of its wholly-owned English subsidiary, Davidson MacGregor. An injuction until May 6 has been granted to Buccaneer which charging alleges that Coated failed to complete an agreement for the sale to Buccaneer of the entire issued share capital of Davidson MacGregor.

● INCOME INCREASE: Tricentrol, the independent British oil company, yesterday reported first quarter net income of £5.3m, £1.0m up on last year's figure. Mr James Longcroft, the chairman, said that Tricentrol had accepted the new North Sea oil price of $30 a barrel, but continued to dispute BNOC's right to backdate its price cuts to February and March.

● BANK EXPANSION: The Royal Bank of Scotland has had its application to open a Singapore branch approved by the country's monetary authority. It plans to start business later this year. A Hong Kong branch was opened in 1978.

Wall St mixed in moderate trading

New York (AP-Dow Jones) – Stocks were pulling back and turned mixed in moderate trading. The Dow Jones industrial average was down a fraction after being ahead more than four points earlier.

Advancing issues led declines by 7-to-6.

Honeywell way up 2⅞ at 107⅛. **International Business Machines** up ¼ at 116⅜. **Motorola** up ¼ at 108¾. **Texas Instruments** down 1⅛ at 144½. **Control Data** down 1⅜ to 46⅛. **Teledyne** unchanged at 140½. *General Electric* up ⅜ at 109½ and **Digital Equipment** down 2⅛ at 144¼.

Data General was down 6⅜ at 66⅞. The company said it knew no internal or external reason for Wednesday's rise of 10¼. A report in a Boston newspaper yesterday said the rise was linked to rumours of a merger or acquisition but the company said it knew of no takeover offers.

General Dynamics was 49¾ up ⅜. **Procter & Gamble** 61¼ off ⅜. **Upjohn** 56¼ off ⅜. **Standard Oil-Ohio** 46⅞ up ⅜. **Merck** 90 ¼ unchanged

Smith says study challenges Lonrho argument

Pension funds opposed to Harrods demerger, claims Fraser chairman

By Jeremy Warner

An independent report commissioned by the National Association of Pension Funds on the battle between Lonrho and the main House of Fraser board over whether Harrods should be demerged from the rest of the department stores group, "endorses our view and diminishes Lonrho's argument," Professor Roland Smith, Fraser's chairman, claimed yesterday.

The report, prepared by *auditors Coopers & Lybrand*, was commissioned to help pension funds with a shareholding in House of Fraser to form a view on the war of words being fought through circulars from Lonrho and the main board on the demerger issue. Lonrho, the international trading group headed by Mr Roland 'Tiny' Rowland, is trying ot persuade other House of Fraser shareholders to vote against a board resolution at a shareholders meeting in Glasgow next Friday that Harrods remain in the group.

The resolution is linked to a vote of confidence in the board. Announcing pretax profits for last year up from £28m in 1981 to £33.19m, Professor Smith drew attention to a paragraph in the report's conclusion that appeared to challenge Lonrho's contention that shareholders risk nothing by demerging Harrods, the London department store.

The report states: "We think that risks will arise from the demerger. Those risks will ultimately be passed through to shareholders who will have to judge whether their incurrence is justified."

The report continues: "Both parties lay claim to protecting Harrods. However, the demerger of Harrods will not of itself afford protection as a demerger. Harrods may become the subject of a takeover bid with consequences that cannot be foreseen.


Holding on to Harrods: Professor Smith cites "demerger risks" in pension funds report

The report, which takes a neutral stance, states that the profit returns quoted by the minority directors "are not based on the financial projections prepared by the working party".

The attitude of the Merchant Navy pension fund in particular, which has comparatively recently built up a stake of 3 per cent of Fraser shares, is thought to be crucial for next week's vote.

The Merchant Navy fund has not yet exercised its voting power in a fight between the board and Lonrho.

House of Fraser is meanwhile planning to move ahead with a £50m redevelopment of Barkers of Kensington, west London, in conjunction with London and Metropolitan Estates.

Fraser's contribution to the cost of the development will be to inject the freehold valued at £20m.

Professor Smith said an announcement would also be made shortly on what was to be done with the Army and Navy store in central London which lost £500,000 last year.

City Comment

Aid for our economic acorns

Ministers have been making great play since the Budget of the measures being introduced to help the small companies sector. Earlier this week it was the turn of Mr Nicholas Ridley, financial secretary to the Treasury, who described the Budget package as the best crop of measures yet for small companies.

The number of new companies being formed has risen steadily since 1977 with a particularly sharp upswing last year when company registrations jumped by a fifth. Does this suggest that the Government's tax cuts and incentives have spawned a new breed of thrusting entrepreneurs in the midst *of the worst recession for 50* years?

Not exactly, according to a study from Dr Martin Binks and Mr John Coyne published today by the Institute for Economic Affairs. The study, *The Birth of Enterprise*, criticizes *the lack of government* commitment towards the small companies sector.

Lack of suitable premises and the difficulties of raising start-up capital and financing early growth were what the Government should be focusing on. The banks too need to fundamentally change their attitudes, the study says, and become less cautious towards the small companies.

These prescriptions are not new but there may well be something in the call for a more long-term and dynamic approach.

On the loan guarantee scheme, for instance, the authors say the Government should abolish the 3 per cent interest rate premium and worry less about *whether it is immediately* self-financing. Instead it should view the scheme over a longer perspective and think of the taxes which the entrepreneur of today will pay as the big company of tomorrow.

Bank issues indexed long tap

By Sally White

The Bank of England took the gilt market by surprise with its issue of a new long tap yesterday. It is a new form of government security, as it is an index-linked Treasury convertible partly paid and to be issued by tender.

The gilt market saw the new tap as an attempt to make *progress with government* funding, which has been lagging in the unmcertainty about the election. The index-linked element is a hedge against the inflation rises feared by some fund managers in case of a Labour victory, and the conversion into conventional stock appeals to hopes of capital gains on gilt price rises should there be a Conservative victory.

The gilt market fell as a result, because the tender on May 5 will, assuming, as expected that the new tap will be at least fully subscribed, take £400m out of the market. By the close, long dates were down a half point, mediums a quarter and shorts were down an eighth.

The stance of the authorities is that funding is going smoothly, and that the tap is designed to appeal to institutional investors who have been worried about possible rises in inflation rates. The forecasts for the money supply figures released *bya number of gilt brokers for* April carry pessimistic assumptions for inflation and the market had been expecting the authorities to overfund

The terms of the tap is that the £1bn of 2½ per cent index-linked Treasury convertible 1999 is 40 per cent payable on May 5, the remaining 30 per cent on June 6 and the balance on July 4. The stock is convertible into 10¼ conversion stock 1999.

Conversion dates are November 22, 1983, May 22, 1984 and November 22, 1984. There is no minimum tender price. But if the stock went at par, which seems unlikely the real yield would be 2.52 per cent and the yield to redemption on the convertible would be 9.82 per cent.

FT 30 INDEX – 700, 690, 680, 670, 660, 650 – APRIL

ICI SHARE PRICE – 480, 460, 440, 420, 400, 380 – FEB, MAR, APR – DATASTREAM

ICI profits surge surprises market

By Our Financial Staff

ICI surprised the stock market at midday by announcing a £128m pretax profit figure for the first quarter of 1983. That is well over twice the £62m it made in the first quarter last year and £18m ahead of the most optimistic estimates.

The figures, released less than a minute after the noon calculation of the *FT* 30-share index, were enough to push the index through the 700 level by 1pm.

ICI's own shares rose to over 490p before reconsideration of the implications, together with profit-taking brought them back to close at 476p – a rise of 2p on the day. The index closed at 696.8 down 2.2 on the day. This is the second day running the index has topped 700, but failed to close at or above that level.

The market's failure to hold its earlier gains is attributable to two main factors: ICI apart, it was not a heavy trading day, and a closer look at ICI's figures prompted brokers' analysts to net out around £20m of the pretax figure as "*potentially exceptional*".

This attitude is endoresed by ICI itself. Mr Alan Clements, the finance director, told *The Times* yesterday: "obviously it is encouraging to report increased profits of this nature, but as we have indicated there is a possible one-off element involved. On the other hand, there has been a genuine volume improvement of 4 per cent in the first quarter but again, so far, this has been localized and patchy."

The company states that all its leading chemical businesses performed better than during the previous quarter, with the improvement concentrated in western Europe. Elsewhere, business remained flat.

Investors' notebook, page 18

36,000 in steel protest

From Bailey Morris, Washington

American steelworkers launched a two-pronged drive yesterday to block a proposed joint venture by British Steel and US Steel Corporation.

Workers from the Fairless Hill steelworks near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, which would be affected by the venture delivered more than 36,000 letters to the White House, urging President Reagan to block the proposed venture.

Citing continuing high unemployment in the domestic steel industry, the workers – members of the Unibed Steelworkers of America, said that they did not want to lose their jobs to subsidized steel from abroad.

Their march on the White House coincided with the release of Congressional testimony in which Mr Lloyd McBride, the president of the Steelworkers union, demanded a full-scale Congressional investigation.

Heavy fund investment abroad

By Our Financial Staff

Pension fund managers are continuing to invest overseas with 27 per cent of total cashflow pumped into foreign markets during 1982, according to the latest pension survey from stockbrokers, Wood Mackenzie.

Fund managers also turned over their foreign investments more quickly with activity twice as great as in UK equities. With £1,209m channelled into overseas equities, foreign stockmarkets were the principal area of investment in 1982.

The Wood Mackenzie survey covers nearly 700 pension funds with a market value of £47 billion and represents 56 per cent of all UK pension fund assets.

Property remained out of favour soaking up only 13 per cent of total cashflow in 1982 compared with 23 per cent in 1977.

Average monetary return was 28.9 per cent during 1982, though returns ranged from 8.9 pre cent in property to 52.4 per cent in fixed interest securities. In real terms, pension funds have shown an average return of 4.8 over the last five years.

With pension fund actuaries expecting a real return of only 3 per cent, the figure of 4.8 per cent bears out the contention hald by the Centre for Policy Studies in its pension review that pension funds are currently overfunded, providing an ideal opportunity when surplus cash is available within the funds, to improve the benefits of deferred pensioners (early leavers).

It also accounts for the decline in real terms on pension fund contributions, down about 20 per cent *on the previous year* as employers cut back on the cash going into the funds.

● A free advisory service for Britain's 12million pension fund members was launched in London yesterday. The Occupational Pensions Advisory Services (OPAS) has veen formed in response to the call made by the Occupational Pensions Board in a report last year for a personal advice service for employees and pensioners in occupational pension schemes.

OPAS, which would be in a position to start operating in a couple of months is linking up with the Citizens' Advice Bureau (CAB), which has 850 offices round the country. It offers free advice to anyone in an occupational pension scheme. Where appropriate, they will be directed to their employer or trade union representative or advised by pension experts, many of whom, OPAS hopes, will work voluntarily.

The OPAS initiative is the brainchild of Miss Margaret Grainger, a senior civil servant.

Call to wind up six Hunt companies

By Our Financial Staff

Up to 2,000 private investigators may be caught up in the problems of Exchange Securities and Commodities, the Warwick-based investment management group founded by Mr Keith Hunt.

Yesterday the Department of Trade revealed that it has petitioned the High Court for the compulsory winding-up of ESC plus five more of Mr Hunt's companies. This follows a month long investigation of Mr Hunt's firms by Department of Trade inspectors.

In addition to these moves the department is trying to revoke the licensed dealerships of three more of Mr Hunt's companies which advertise for funds from the public. These include Exchange Securities Financial Services, and Exchange Securities Investment Management, which operates from Mayfair, in London.

The Department of Trade says it has been trying to track down Mr Hunt for two weeks with no success. The official Receiver has been appointed provisional liquidator by the court and a special squad from accountants Thomson McLintock was yesterday encamped in Exchange Securities' Warwick office.


Hunt: managed '£7.5m'

Yesterday a spokesman for the Thomson McLintock team said it was there to preserve the assets left in the group. It was too early to know the fate of clients' money; Mr Hunt, well known for proclaiming his scientific investment techniques at one point said he had £7.5m under management.

Linfood may bid for Key Markets

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Linfood Holdings, which is in the middle of a bitterly-fought takeover battle for Fitch Lovell, is considering a number of alternatives, including bidding for the Key Markets chain within Fitch Lovell.

Fitch Lovell has been in talks with the American-owned Safeway Food Stores to sell Key Markets for a reported £35m. The move has been seen as a defensive one, effectively removing from Fith Lovell its prime attraction for Linfood.

The Safeway move has come as the Monopolies and Mergers Commission recommendation on the £96m Linfood bid for Fitch is about to be announced. e expectation is that the bid will be given the green light.

Linfood wrote yesterday to Fitch asking for a meeting to discuss "a number of possible alternatives" to the reported sale of Key Markets to Safeway.

The letter makes clear that one of the alternatives could be an offer by Linfood to purchase 106 Key Markets stores. The letter adds: "We would expect to receive full information regarding Key Markets such as you probably supplied to Safeway during the course of negotiations."

New minister needed for EEC reforms, says Goldsmith

Call for European free trade

By Graham Searjeant

The Prime Minister should appoint a Cabinet minister without portfolio to spearhead a "coordinated reforming crusade within the EEC", the Institute of Directors urged yesterday.

The institute has embarked on an intriguing campaign to reactivate the stalled progress of the European Community by switching its emphasis back to free trade between member countries.

"Businessmen are less than happy with many aspects of the Common Market", said institute director-general Mr Walter Goldsmith, as he launched a 64-page policy document entitled *The European Community – a policy for reform*. "Neither the Labour Party's absurdly impractical withdrawal policy, nor the Conservatives' bague and next to useless 'stay in' stance are good enough for Britain."

Mr Goldsmith feels that Britain's negative position has allowed bureaucrats in Brussels to take over and foist silly controls on people such as the famous pet tortoise regulations as well as important directives on multinationals and employee participation which his institute has strongly opposed.

He thinks that Britain should now seize the initiative. "We should concentrate attention on the creation of a true free market. Then there would not be enough time for these damaging bureaucratic ventures".

The institute's own checklist of recommendations for reform runs to 73, covering anything from the Low Voltage Directive, which it supports, to the monetary compensation amounts, which it wants abolished. It urges through-going reforms of the Common Agricultural Policy, endorses plans to harmonize trade union obligations and rejects harmonization of employee participation.


Goldsmith: 'silly controls'

But its main emphasis is on improving the working of the EEC's internal market and stopping individual EEC countries from adopting different non-tariff barriers to third country imports, such as voluntary restraint agreements. It wants to translate the Treaty of Rome "into a real capitalist's charter".

Although formal tariffs may have been abolished internally there are still many non-tariff *barriers and impediments to* free trade ranging from competing state support systems to unhelpful border guards. "We have not got free movement of goods and services", says Mr Goldsmith. As an instance, the port of Dover has customs officials on duty every day but *those at Calais do not work* at weekends.

The institute wants to dismantle border controls "except where absolutely necessary on health and security grounds" and harmonize procedures for the benefit of cross-border traders. It also wants to harmonize product standards and make type approval certification the same, to promote competition, as well as simplifying and harmonizing VAT procedures throughout the Community.

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK ● edited by Sally White

ICI profits take the City by storm

ICI took the market by storm with its £128m profit figure against the most bullish estimates of around £110m for the first quarter of 1983.

As the market worked out during the day, last week's caution which tinged the chairman's optimism was justified. Of the improved profit £20m comes from currency profits relating to 1982 contracts, and which may prove to be one-off. Knocking that out would bring pre-tax figures down to £108m for the first quarter – almost bang in the middle of the market's adjusted forecast range.

The initial reaction was to push ICI's share index back through the 700-mark, and the shares still finished the day at a near-record closing price of 476p.

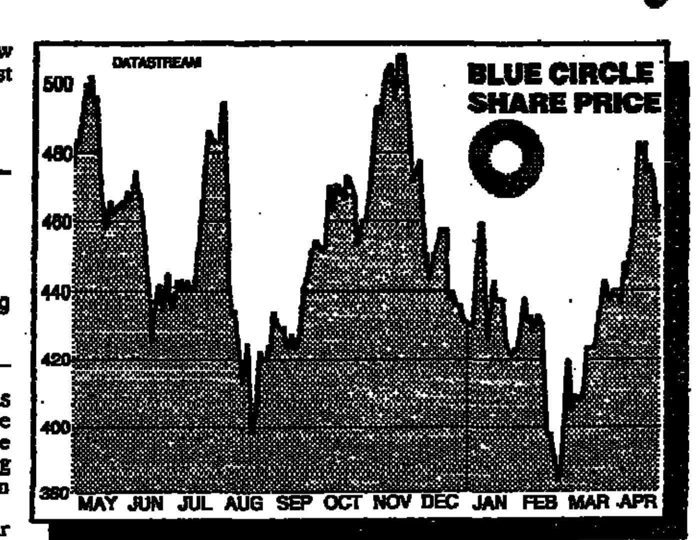
A gain of 2p on the day where there has been such a strong bull position over the last couple of accounts is still respectable, but there does not seem to be a great deal to go for – particularly if the market as a whole is near its top. Much will depend on how enthusiastically the US interest in the shares is maintained.

Blue Circle

Blue Circle
Year to 31-12-82
Pretax profit £90m (£104.1m)
Stated earnings 52.6p (48.1p)
Turnover £785.2m (£750.2m)
Net final dividend 12.25p making 18.25p (17.5p)
Share price 463 up 2p. Yield 5.6%

A surge in UK profits has saved Blued Circle from the more painful effects of the dramas that have been effecting its leading businesses in Latin America.

Group pretax profits last year dropped from £104.1m to £90m. That is not bad performance in the light of the £37m downturn that occurred in Mexican and Chilean trading profits under pressure from economic collapse and plunging currencies.



Enormous price increases in Mexico and significant progress in the ne otiations to refinance $270m of Mexican borrowings that have assumed monumental proportions in local currency terms as the peso has collapsed, are unlikely to halt the decline in Latin American returns this year.

With volumes still falling, a recovery in Latin American profits, for so long Blue Circle's growth provider, is going to have to wait 1984.

After last year's rise of a quarter in UK trading profits to £42.5m, boosted by a 4 per cent growth in volume and substantial cost savings, there should be further good progress in 1983. It has been well over a year since the last price rise.

With the industry's common price agreement once more under pressure, both commercially and from the office of Fair Trading it is going to prove difficult to push another through this year.

Volume is projected to rise between 3 and 5 per cent and the company will continue to derive benefit from its cost cutting and energy efficiency programme.

John Laing

John Laing
Year to 31.12.82
Pretax profit £1.3m (£6.1m)
Stated loss per share 4.5p (14.7p)
Turnover £773m (719m)
Final dividend 1.875p making 2.875p (same)
Share price 110p up 15p Yield 3.7%

John Laing, Britain's second largest construction group, caught a cold in its three main overseas markets last year. Problems ranged from the cancellation of a £40m dam building contract and "unreliable" management in Venezuela, to a write down of £4.8m on two large contracts in the Middle East.

The result was that exceptional losses of £13.3m and extraordinary losses of £5.8m were included in the 1982 results. Without the problems overseas, the company said, pretax profits of £1.3m against £6.1m last year would have been much higher.

In 1983 the group hopes that profits will be in the region of £23m if all goes well.

George Wimpey, the housebuilding group, managed a £5m increase in pretax profits to £45.7m in 1982 compared with the previous year on a turnover which increased from £1.1bn to £1.24bn. A final dividend of 2.15p is recommended, making 3p for the year against 2.8p last time.

£24m Dowable bid for Cope lapses

By Andrew Cornelius

The bid for Cope Allman, the leisure and packaging group, by the Dowable consortium, lapsed yesterday.

Robert Fleming & Company, the merchant bankers to Dowable, said that after receiving acceptances representing only 22.7 per cent of Cope Allman's share capital, Dowable was unable to declare the offer unconditional. Therefore, the offer has lapsed.

Mr David Wickins, the chairman of British Car Auctions and who heads the consortium, launched his near £24m offer for Cope Allman early last month after joining forces with Mr Michael Ashcroft, head of the Hawley Group, the leisure and entertainments company, and Lin Pac, the packaging and containers company.

The Dowable consortium held a 14 per cent stake in Cope Allman when the bid was announced. It had launched a similar consortium-based takeover attempt last December.

The present takeover battle was bitterly contested by Cope which described the Dowable offer as unsolicited and unwelcome.

Dottridge buy-out

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Dottridge Brothers of North London, one of the oldest names in the funeral trade which has been a family-run private company since 1835, is being bought out by its senior management.

Dottridge, which has about 30 trading branches in the South East and employs about 200 people, is among the top 20 funeral companies in Britain. There are about 600,000 funerals a year Britain and costs for a funeral vary from £300 to £400.

The management team which is buying Dottridge for £1.5m is Group Captain Anthony Dottridge, the 66-year-old chairman who was a Second World War fighter pilot; Mr Victor Taylor, the 40-year-old managing director and Mr Simon Strudwick, finance director.

The three are taking three quarters of the equity with the rest covered by a term loan from County Bank which is continuing as the company's financial adviser. Dottridge has an annual turnover of £3.4m.

COMMODITIES

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE
Prices in pounds per metric ton
Silver in pence per troy ounce

	Y'day's Close	Previous Close
High grade copper	–	–
Cash	1113–15.00	1117–18.00
Three months	1140.50–1141	1145.50–1146
Standard cath (copper)	–	–
Cash	1084–1085	1090–1092
Three months	1112–13.50	1117–1118
Tin: cash	8850–8860	8835–8840
Three months	8785–8790	8775–8776
Lead: cash	294–294.50	295–296
Three months	305–305.25	306–306.50
Zinc: cash	461–462	464.50–465
Three months	476.50–477	479–480
Silver: cash	759.5–60.5	780–782
Three months	778–778.5	799.5–801
Aluminium: cash	878.50–79.50	879–880
Three months	905–905.50	905.50–906
Nickel: cash	3110–3120	3105–3110
Three months	3200–3205	3190–3195

L.M.E. TURNOVER
Copper (higher grade): 8,600 tonnes; Standard cathodes: 250 tonnes; Tin (standard): 370 tonnes; Lead: 1,725 tonnes; Zinc: 4,400 tonnes; Silver: 114 lots of 10,000 ozs. each; Aluminium: 4,275 tonnes; Nickel: 744 tonnes.

LONDON COMMODITY PRICES
Rubber in £'s per tonne;
Coffee, cocoa, sugar and soyabean meal in pounds per metric ton;
Wool in N.Z. cents per kilo;
I.P.E. in U.S. $ per metric ton;
Gold in U.S. $ per oz.

MEAT AND LIVESTOCK COMMISSION: Average fatstock prices at representative markets on March 9:
GB: Cattle, 94.22p per kg lw (-0.17).
GB: Sheep, 222.92p per kg est d c w (+13.53).
GB: Pigs, 68.76p per kg lw (+1.19).
England and Wales:
Cattle nos down 20.6 per cent, ave. price, 94.21p (-0.06).
Sheep nos up 38.3 per cent, ave. price, 224.18p (+12.16).
Pigs nos up 1.7 per cent, ave. price, 68.76p (+1.19).
Scotland:
Cattle nos down 28.1 per cent, ave. price, 94.26p (-0.46).
Sheep nos down 9.4 per cent, ave. price, 217.009p (+15.69).

LONDON INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL FUTURES:

Month	Last	High	Low	Pr Set
June	1.5565	1.5650	1.5535	1.5635
Sep	1.5555	1.5076	1.5535	1.5606
Dec	1.5530	1.5530	1.5530	1.5605
Sterling deposit				
Month	Last	High	Low	Pr Set
June	90.28	90.28	90.25	90.28
Sep	90.47	90.47	90.44	90.45
Dec	90.43	90.42	90.41	90.42
March	90.27	90.31	90.25	90.31
June	90.15	90.15	90.05	90.14
Long-gilts				
Month	Last	High	Low	Pr Set
June	105.14	105.23	105.10	105.19
Sep	104.30	105.00	104.30	105.04
Dec	107.03	107.03	107.03	107.01
March	107.00	107.00	107.00	106.30
D-mark				
Month	Last	High	Low	Pr Set
June	406.9	407.8	406.7	409.6
Sep	412.1	412.1	412.1	414.4
Dec	–	–	–	–
Yen				
Month	Last	High	Low	Pr Set
June	421.9	421.9	420.5	425.3
Sep	–	–	–	–
Dec	–	–	–	–
Swiss franc				
Month	Last	High	Low	Pr Set
June	4.354	4.365	4.356	4.357
Sep	4.920	4.920	4.920	4.955
Dec	–	–	–	–

RUBBER	Y'day's Close	Previous Close
June	740–750	735–750
	–	736–737
July/Sept	744–745	735–737
Oct/Dec	747–749	739–740
Jan/March	768–769	759–760
April/June	788–790	778–780
July/Sept	810–813	800–801
Oct/Dec	829–836	820–821
Jan/March	851–858	841–842

Sales: 204 lots at 15 tonnes each, including 17 kerbs.

COFFEE	Y'day's Close	Previous Close
May	1878–1879	1840–1845
July	1695–1696	1674–1676
Sept	1614–1616	1583–1586
Nov	1559–1560	1537–1539
Jan	1520–1522	1505–1506
March	1485–1490	1472–1474
May	1470–1471	1450–1459

Sales: 3,625 lots, including three options.

COCOA	Y'day's Close	Previous Close
May	1267–1268	1282–1285
July	1294–1295	1309–1310
Sept	1302–1303	1317–1318
Dec	1318–1319	1330–1331
March	1332–1335	1343–1345
May	1340–1341	1353–1358
July	1348–1350	1360–1373

Sales: 3,416 lots. ICCO prices (daily (April 27), 90.17c; indicator price (April 28), 5-day average, 88.87c. (U.S. cents per lb).

SUGAR	Y'day's Close	Previous Close
May	128.60-130.00	127.00-127.25
Aug	135.30-135.50	135.60-135.70
Oct	143.00-143.05	142.00-142.90
Dec	148.25-148.75	148.00-148.75
March	156.00-156.75	156.50-156.75
May	160.25-161.00	160.50-161.00

Sales: 4,409 lots. The London daily "raws" price was unchanged at £120 per tonne, while the "whites" price was £1 lower at £143.50 per tonne I.S.A. prices (Apl 27), daily, 7.42c., 15-day average, 6.63c.(US cents per lb)

WOOL	Y'day's Close	Previous Close
May	Buyer unqtd -432 seller	428-435
Aug	441-444	439-442
Oct	441-445	442-444
Dec	444-447	444-448
Jan	447-449	446-450
March	453-457	457-460
May	460-465	463-468
Aug	470-475	473-482
Oct	470-479	478-485

Sales: 49 lots.

SOYABEAN MEAL	Y'day's Close	Previous Close
June	144.28-144.40	146.00-146.50
Aug	144.30-145.00	147.00-148.00
Oct	149.30-149.40	152.10-152.20
Dec	155.30-155.40	157.70-158.00
Feb	159.00-162.00	162.00-162.50
Apl	159.50-161.00	162.60-163.20
Jne	160.50-163.00	163.00-165.00

Sales: 93 lots, including 11 options

COMPANY NEW IN BRIEF

Farnell Electronics
year to 30.1.83.
Pretax profit, £10.44m (£7.81m).
Stated earnings, 8.5p (6.6p).
Turnover, £41.97m (£33.65m).
Net dividend, 2.0p (1.55p, adjusted).

Davies & Newman Holdings
year to 31.12.82.
Pretax profit, £3,31m (£342,000).
Stated earnings, 57.0p (1.0p).
Turnover, £183.84m (£154.47m).
Net dividend, 10p (3p).

Platignum
Year to 31.1.83.
Pretax loss, £860,000 (£616,000 loss).
Net dividend, nil (0.01p).

Elbar Industrial
Year to 31.1.83.
Pretax loss, £2.31m (£2.25m loss).
Stated earnings (loss) 50p (loss, 55.68p).
Turnover, £88.32m (£85.99m).
Net dividend, nil (nil).

Border Breweries (Wrexham)
Year to 28.2.83
Pretax profit, £932,000 (£938,000)
Stated earnings, 10.15p (11.59p)
Turnover, £15.76m (£15.28m)
Net dividend, 5.3p (5.2p)

Coleman Milne
Year to 31.12.82
Pretax profit, £418,000 (£344,000)
Stated earnings, 6.34p (5.26p)
Turnover, £4.29m (£3.31m)
Net dividend, 1.0p (nil)

Francis Industries
Year to 31.12.82
Pretax profit, £24,000 (£1.73m)
Stated earnings, 0.68p (13.70p)
Turnover, £32.66m (£29.85m)
Net dividend, 2.0p (5.0p)

Office & Electronic Machines
Year to 31.12.82
Pretax profit, £2.11m (£2.65m)
Stated earnings, 20.85p (25.03p)
Turnover, £23.75m (£22.64m)
Net dividend, 7.5p (7.5p)

Audio Fidelity.
Half-year to 31.10.82.
Pretax loss, £179,000 (£190,000 loss).
Turnover, £1.59m (£1.71m).
Net interim dividend, nil (nil).

Silentnight Holdings.
Year to 29.1.83.
Pretax profit, £5.22m (£5.11m).
Stated earnings, 10.0p (10.6p).
Turnover, £77.27m (£72.79m).
Net dividend, 2.5p (2.5p).

Yule Catto.
Year to 31.12.82.
Pretax profit, £6.58m (£5.92m).
Stated earnings, 12.0p (11.6p).
Turnover, £78.25m (£87.26m).
Net dividend 3.0p (2.5p).

George Wimpey.
Year to 31.12.82.
Pretax profit, £45.7m (£42.7m).
Stated earnings, 15.1p (19.0p).
Turnover, £1.240m (£1,101m).
Net dividend, 3.0p (2.8p).

S. Simpson
Halff-year to 31.1.83
Pretax profit, £373,000 (£235,000)
Turning, £13.11m (£11.15m)
Net interim dividend, 1.31p (1.31)

Pochin's
Half-year to 30.11.82
Pretax profit, £256,000 (£201,000)
Turnover, £8.75m (£8.28m)
Net interim dividend, 0.875p (0.875p)

Aero Needles Group
Year to 31.12.82
Pretax profit, £263,000 (£557,000 loss)
Stated earnings, 3.88 p (profit, 15,06p)
Turnover, £9.23m (£8.39m)
Net dividend, nil (nil)

Whatman Reeve Angel
Year to 31/12/82.
Pretax profit, £2.52m (£1.9m).
Stated earnings, 27.09p (26.55p).
Turnover, £19.43m (£16.7m).
Net dividend, 6.0p (5.0p).

Hawkins & Tipson
Half-year to 28/2/83.
Pretax loss, £57,000 (£557,000 loss).
Stated earnings (loss) 0.6p (loss, 6.42p).
Turnover, £6.78m (£8.22m).
Net interim dividend, nil (nil).

Samuel Properties
Half-year to 31/12/82.
Pretax profit, £1.64m (£1.53m).
Stated earnings, 3.60p (3.69p).
Net interim dividend, 1.43p (1.3p).

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	10 %
Barclays	10 %
BCCI	10 %
Consolidated Crds	10½%
C. Hoare & Co	*10 %
Lloyds Bank	10 %
Midland Bank	10 %
Nat Westminster	10 %
TSB	10 %
Williams & Glyn's	10 %

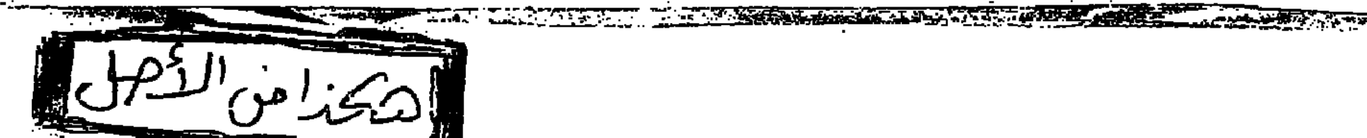
* 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000, 6¾%; £10,000 up to £50,000, 7¼%; £50,000 and over, 8¼%.

Granville & Co Limited.
(Formerly M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited)
27/28 Lovat Lane, London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-621 1212

The Over-the-Counter Market

1982/83 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div(p)	Yld %	P/E Actual	P/E Fully Taxed
142	120	Ass Brit Ind Ord	134	–	6.4	4.8	7.8	10.2
158	117	Ass Brit Ind CULS	152	–	10.0	6.6	–	–
74	57	Airsprung Group	62xd	–	6.1	9.8	17.7	17.7
46	30	Armitage & Rhodes	30	–	4.3	14.3	3.3	5.9
325	197	Bardon Hill	325	–	11.4	3.5	13.7	17.2
144	100	CCL 11.0% Conv Pref	144	–	15.7	10.9	–	–
270	210	Cindico Group	210	–	17.6	8.4	–	–
86	50	Deborah Services	50	-1	6.0	12.0	3.3	8.9
97	77	Frank Horsell	97	–	–	–	8.1	8.7
95½	75½	Frank Horsell Pr Ord 87	95.5	–	8.7	9.1	10.6	11.4
83	61	Frederick Parker	62	–	7.1	11.5	3.9	6.2
55	34	George Blair	34	–	–	–	5.9	12.3
100	74	Ind Prec Castings	77	-1	7.3	9.5	9.9	12.4
166	100	Isis Conv Pref	166	–	15.7	9.5	–	–
146	94	Jackson Group	146	+1	7.5	5.1	4.5	9.3
214	111	James Burrough	214	–	9.6	4.5	15.6	17.4
260	148	Robert Jenkins	152	–	20.0	13.2	1.7	24.1
83	54	Scruttons "A"	69	-1	5.7	8.3	9.0	10.8
167	112	Torday & Carlisle	114	-1	11.4	10.0	5.1	8.8
29	21	Unilock Holdings	26	–	0.46	1.8	–	–
85	64	Walter Alexander	67	–	6.4	9.6	4.8	6.9
270	214	W. S. Yeates	265	–	17.1	6.5	4.1	8.5

Prices now available on Prestel, page 48146



Pressure on President to decide on Volcker, Bailey Morris reports

Will Reagan's turbulent central banker survive?

Mr Paul Adolph Volcker last week received that rarest of Washington benedictions – a personal apology from the President of the United States for a barrage of news stories suggesting that he would be let go as chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, the US central bank.

It was an event of more than a little significance, indicating as it did that Mr Reagan has not yet taken what many believe to be one of his most important decisions since taking office almost two and a half years ago. "We just haven't considered it" Mr Reagan said on Wednesday.

The fate of Mr Volcker has generated as much speculation as that surrounding Washington's other most pressing question – whether or not Mr Reagan himself will run again for President.

Indeed, there are some influential officials, concerned about the fragile state of the economic recovery, who think Mr Volcker's reappointment as chairman of the Federal Reserve Board is more important.

They are among the powerful Wall Street supporters of Mr Volcker who have been urging the President to rename him chairman when his present term expires on August 6.

But there are an equal number of detractors who have advised Mr Reagan to get rid of the independent Mr Volcker who has single-mindedly pursued his goal of ridding America of inflation with an almost religious fervour.

His critics in the White House and in Congress claim that this relentless pursuit not only plunged the country into recession but also kept it in a slump through tight-money policies which encouraged high interest rates.

They want Mr Volcker to go. In his place, as the chief architect of United States monetary policy, they want someone who is more of a "team player" and less of a household word.

"The fact is that Paul Volcker is associated in the public's mind with high interest rates. I can't believe that it makes sense when you are running for re-election to have someone in that job who is not your own guy", said a White House official.

Who should replace him? In answer to this question, there is a decided lack of unanimity among Mr Volcker's detractors.

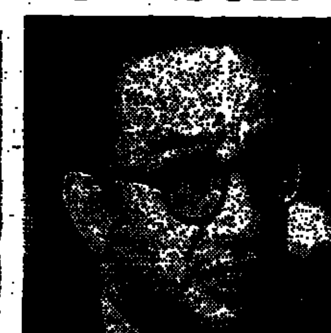
At the moment, Mr Alan Greenspan, the 57-year-old former chairman of the US Council of Economic Advisers who is a consultant to the Reagan Administration, appears to be the frontrunner.

But he is by no means the only candidate in a crowded field which also includes: Mr Donald Regan, the US Treasury Secretary who is often at odds with Mr Volcker; Mr Preston Martin, the vice-chairman of the Federal Reserve Board who served as an aide to Mr Reagan when he was governor of California; Mr Martin Feldstein, the chairman of the President's Council of Economic Advisers; Mr Walter Wriston, chairman of Citicorp Bank who has stated his belief that a banker should not have the job; and Mr Beryl Sprinkel, a dedicated monetarist who is under secretary of the US Treasury.

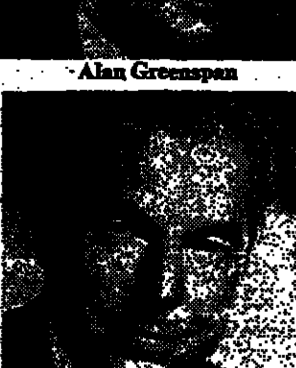
There is one other candidate, a rank outsider more famous than the rest put together: Could Professor Milton Friedman, the 70-year old Nobel laureate and arch-evangelist of monetarist free enterprize, finally get his hands on the printing presses he has so long wanted to slow down? He has certainly been a strong critic of Mr Volcker.

Of all the proposed successors to Mr Volcker, only Mr Greenspan appears to have the confidence of Wall Street leaders who nonetheless points out that despite his extensive experience as an economist and government official he has never run a regulatory agency or set government policy.


Paul Volcker


Alan Greenspan

Beryl Sprinkel


Walter Wriston

Donald Regan

Detractors ask President to drop Fed's chairman

The other candidates are all faulted for a disturbing lack of knowledge and experience of the workings of both the Federal Reserve system and the International Monetary System.

European officers are particularly concerned about the latter issue. In the past they have blamed Mr Volcker's monetary policy for the prolonged slump and foreign exchange cheats. But they credit him with saving the world from an even more serious debt crisis by issuing an early warning of growing insolvency in the developing world.

Mr Arthur Burns, the US ambassador to West Germany who formerly headed the US central bank, visited Washington recently to personally relay these European concerns to Mr George Bush, the Vice-President.

Mr Burns reportedly urged the Vice-President to report to Mr Reagan the strong European support for Mr Volcker's reappointment which officials abroad believe is critically important during this period of nascent economic recovery.

"We'd rest easier if we knew the sure hand of experience was guiding United States monetary policy and if we felt there would be a continuity of policy during this critical period", said a high-level European Community official.

It is ironic that the same intellectual authority and determination which have earned Mr Volcker so much respect in Europe have also created enemies at the White House.

Even though Mr Volcker and the President have been meeting more frequently and on better terms, there was a period early in the Administration when their relations were not at all good.

At their first meeting, Mr Volcker reportedly pointed his finger and "lectured" the President about the potential conflict of his economic programme and the tight money policy the Federal Reserve intended to pursue to reduce inflation.

Some of Mr Reagan's advisers still remember the meeting and cannot forgive Mr Volcker for what they regard as arrogant and extremely uncooperative behaviour. It was not accidental that Mr Reagan and Mr Volcker did not meet at all between February, 1982 and February, 1983, one official disclosed.

The fact that Mr Volcker has repeatedly refused to follow the party line – often voicing strong criticism of Mr Reagan's huge Budget deficits and recently breaking with the Administration by endorsing a policy of limited intervention in currency markets – continues to irritate the President's Californians.

Supporters of Mr Volcker say, however, that he is not an arrogant man but rather a committed public servant of superior intellect who has earned the right to champion a cause he does not yet believe he has won.

Wall Street support gives pause for thought

For this reason, his friends believe Mr Volcker would accept reappointment even though he would do so at great personal cost. He misses having more time with his wife Barbara, who suffers from arthritis and remains in New York. And he has been offered private banking positions paying up to $400,000 a year. As central bank chief, he earns 69,800.

Despite all this, Mr Volcker still remains a crusader in search of a particular kind of victory. "The battle against inflation has been fairly joined, and we see progress. We must carry through until the battle is won", he said.

This does not mean he is a myopic man, incapable of looking beyong this oft-repeated goal. It was Mr Volcker who argued successfully for a relaxation of the Federal Reserve's money supply targets last year to allow enough growth to promote economic recovery.

His ability to change course with conviction has been earned over a long career of 30 years in private banking and government in which he has presided over the most important US monetary decisions of the post-war period.

It was Mr Volcker who fashioned the United States position and served as America's chief negotiator during the turbulent early 1970's when the Bretton Woods monetary system collapsed and the world moved from fixed to floating exchange rates.

Now, during another difficult period when the world is beginning to question this system, it is the same Mr Volcker who is recommending that changes be pursued at a new international conference on the monetary system.

Over the years, Wall Street officials have watched in admiration as Mr Volcker has treaded his way successfully through a minefield of monetary problems – which is the reason they are urging Mr Reagan to compromise.

The suggestion which Wall Street has put to Mr Reagan is: Reappoint Mr Paul Volcker in August with the private understanding that the central bank chairman will resign in a year's time to allow the President to select his own candidate during his second term of office.

Wall Street's strong support for Mr Wolcker has apparently given the President pause for thought. Aides who predicted earlier that the central bank chairman was out for sure are now saying that Mr Reagan has not yet made up his mind and is keeping his intentions it himself.

In any case, a decision is not now expected until after western heads of state meet in Williamsburg, Virginia, next month for their annual economic summit.

APPOINTMENTS

ACA's top officers are named

Mr N K Grant has been elected president of The Association of Certified Accountants, Mr F E Bleasdale was elected deputy president and Mr P T Hobkinson, vice-president to serve for the year 1983-84.

Mr Andrew Harding has been appointed as a non-executive director of H P Bulmer Holdings.

Mr Robert L Millbourn has been appointed a director of Robert Fraser & Partners. He was previously a director of subsidiary Robert Fraser International. Mr R J Lambe and Mr D W Ashworth have been appointed assistant directors of Robert Fraser & Partners.

Sir Anthony Royle has joined the board of directors of Allegheny International. In addition he has been appointed president of Wilkinson Sword Group, a wholly owned subsidiary of Allegheny International.

Mr Timothy Haddon has been appointed vice president, Amax Iron Ore Corporation.

Mr C J Davies has joined the partnership of Lyddon & Company, stockbrokers.

Mr Billy Mundow has been appointed director, sales and marketing, for the Twinlock Group in Ireland.

Mr Ron Jenkins has been appointed chief executive of Jetsave.

Mr Graham F. Puttergill, Mr Roderic H. Smith, Mr John L. Sullivan and Mr Paul B. Walsh have been appointed to the board of Antony Gibbs Holdings, a memeber of The Hongkong Bank Group. Mr Stephen K Hill is now the company secretary.

Mr John H. Barnes has been appointed a director of the London board of Korn Ferry International.

The Unit Trust Price tables have been held over because of pressure on space.

Industrial notebook

Harsh realities of the oil business

In Houston, the acknowledged centre of the Texan oil industry, unemployment has doubled in the last year and now exceeds the national average for the first time in many years. The city's offshore technology conference, once acknowledged to be the single most important industry gathering in the oilman's calendar, being turned from an annual to a biennial event. In another oil state, Oklahoma, oil and gas companies are going bankrupt at the rate of one every three days.

Such are the harsh realities of the oil business in the country where it all began more than a 100 years ago. After the extraordinary transatlantic boom in drilling and oil investment that began during the 1979/80 oil price rises, the tide has turned with a vengeance. The decline in drilling activity from its peak at the end of 1981 has been dramatic even by the industry's traditionally cyclical standards.

In fifteen months, the number of rigs in use has tumbled from its all-time high of 4,520 to fewer than 1,900 where it stands below the level achieved in 1978 before the boom took off. The latest earnings figures from most United States oil companies this week have demonstrated that falling prices continue to take their toll of even big oil's profits.

The collapse of the Penn Square Bank last year and this week's rescue of Seafirst Corporation are only the most visible signs of the financial distress caused by intemperate loans to oil and other energy projects. Nearly all the shale oil and other "synfuel" projects that President Carter proposed to spend billions of dollars on just four years ago have ground to a halt. To cap it all (from the industry's points of view), even the price of petrol has fallen in some areas below the $1 a gallon mark.


Former President Carter: End of his proposals

There are now some signs that the worst of the deterioration in the industry's fortunes is coming to an end.

The American oil industry has always taken a determinedly macho attitude to risk, so nobody will be shedding any tears over the fact that its fortunes have taken a turn for the worse. But the trauma is nonetheless, important.

For one thing the fact that the largest oil consuming nation in the West has now turned its back on most of its future investments in alternative energy sources is the most telling reminder so far that the West has failed to take precautions against becoming dependent on precarious Middle East oil supplies again in the future.

For another, it goes a long way towards explaining why the Reagan Administration has been so reluctant to say publicly whether or not it wants oil prices to fall. All the evidence is that the Administration's instincts are to press for further price falls and the disintegration of Opec but that this has run up against the lobbying power of both the oil industry and the Saudis. The upshot is that the Americans, on this issue, as on so many others, have failed to give the lead to the world that they should.

Jonathan Davis

WALL STREET

Why General Motors lags behind

New York (NYT) – The automobile industry has been one of the first big sectors of the American economy to recover from the recession. But the industry leader, General Motors Corporation, has been lagging behind during a stock market rally that has seen many other big-name issues soar.

Last December, GM shares traded at 64½, compared with their early 1982 low of 34. Now, however, the stock is selling at virtually the same level as its highest price last year. On Wednesday, the stock declined on the New Yok stock exchange by ⅝ to 64¾.

One problem is that people are busily looking for new investment ideas in this market, and General Motors is an all-too-familiar name, Miss Ann C. Knight, of Smith Barney, Harris Upham & Company, said. It is a stock already well represented in many portolios.

Familiarity often breeds oversight in Wall Street, but General Motors is a good old name that might produce some pleasant surprises for its owners This is particularly true of a stock market that has lately favoured group rotation, whereby strong issues lose momentum temporarily as other, relatively neglected, stocks gain.

In GM's case, analysts agree that profits in 1983 and 1984 will rise substantially above last year's $3.09 a share.

Several analysts are predicting higher prices for GM shares later. There is another kicker. At present, the company is the only one of the nation's four auto makers that pays a cash dividend. It is a good bet that GM will increase its quarterly dividend rate of 60 cents a share before the end of 1983, some followers say. The stock now yields about 3.7 per cent.

Last week, GM helped to stoke the fires of a strong market by announcing first-quarter earnings of $2.08 a share, its largest quarterly profit in more than four years. This figure evoked some caution, inasmuch as it primarily reflected a build-up in dealer inventories rather than any sharp expansion in retail sales.

Miss Knight estimated that the company would earn $9.50 a share in 1983 and $13 in 1984. Mr David Healy, of Drexel Burnham Lambert, estimated $9.75 a share for this year and $15 next year.

According to Miss Knight: "I can see this stock selling at $100 by the late summer of next year, as people then will be anticipating a further increase in profits for 1985 at the likely top of the current automotive cycle." However, she said, there were indications that the stock first would encounter resistance at around the $90 level.

Mr Healy is not looking for a price advance of this size. But he said that the stock had a potential to reach between $75 and $80 within six to twelve months. GM traded at a record price of £113 374 in 1965.

Standard & Poors estimated General Motors earnings would reach $9 a share this year and the $12-to-$14 range in 1984. The stock, it added, remained attractive for further gains.

The dividend pay-out at GM held at a quarterly rate of 60 cents a share in 1981 and 1982. That means a yearly rate of $2.40 a share. In 1977, when profits were robust, the company paid a year-end dividend of $3.25 a share on its common stock, along with quarterly dividends. That year, the GM cash pay-out amounted to a record figure of $6.80 a share. Directors are scheduled to meet on Monday to decide on the common stock dividend for the second quarter.

	Apr 27	Apr 28
AMF Inc	15¾	15½
AMR	27½	27⅛
Allied Chem	46⅞	47
Allied Stores	45¾	45⅝
Allis Chalmers	13⅝	14¼
Alcoa	37⅝	35⅞
Amax Inc	27⅛	26⅞
Amerada Hess	26⅞	26⅝
Am Brands	53⅞	54⅞
Am Broadcast	66¾	67¼
Am Can	38	39⅜
Am Cyanamid	41⅞	42½
Am Elec Power	19⅝	19⅝
Am Home	41	40⅝
Am Motors	7	8⅛
Am Nat Res	36	36⅞
Am Standard	31⅛	31⅞
Am Telephone	67¼	67⅛
Armco Steel	17	17⅛
Asarco	35	36⅞
Ashland Oil	32⅞	31¼
Atlantic Richfield	44⅝	44⅞
Avco	29	29⅝
Avon Products	31½	33¼
Bankers Tst NY	46⅝	46⅛
Bank of America	23⅝	23⅞
Bank of Boston	47⅝	47¾
Bank of NY	58⅞	57⅛
Beatrice Foods	27½	27
Bethlehem Steel	21	21⅞
Boeing	39⅞	39⅞
Boise Cascade	45⅛	45¾
Borden	56⅛	56
Borg Warner	45⅛	46
Bristol Myers	80	79⅛
BP	24⅝	24⅞
Burlington Ind	33⅝	33⅞
Burlington Nthn	79⅞	80¾
Burroughs	48⅞	45⅛
Campbell Soup	46⅝	47
Canadian Pacific	38⅝	38⅜
Caterpillar	44⅞	44⅞
Celanese	60⅛	61⅛
Central Soya	15⅝	15⅛
Chase Manhat	55⅞	56½
Chem Bank NY	54⅝	53⅞
Chrysler	25⅞	25⅛
Citicorp	43⅞	43⅝
Clark Equip	33⅜	31¼
Coca Cola	50⅝	50
Colgate	24½	23¾
CBS	72	71½
Columbia Gas	30	30⅝
Combustion Eng	33¾	34⅛
Comwlth Edison	27	27
Cons Edison	22⅛	22⅛
Cons Foods	42½	41⅞
Cons Power	20⅞	20⅛
Continental Grp	43⅞	43⅛
Control Data	47⅛	49⅞
Corning Glass	71⅞	69⅞
CPC Intl	37⅛	37⅞
Crane	29⅛	29⅞
Crocker Int	31¾	32⅛
Crown Zeller.	33⅞	32⅛
Dart & Kraft	78⅛	78¾
Deere	37½	38⅛
Delta Air	45⅛	44½
Detroit Edison	14⅛	14½
Disney	79⅞	80⅛
Dow Chemical	30⅞	30⅞
Dresser Ind	18⅛	18⅛
Duke Power	22½	23⅛
Du Pont	45⅞	45⅞
Eastern Air	7⅛	7⅛
Eastman Kodak	82⅛	81½
Eaton Corp	39⅝	39⅝
El Paso Nat Gas	17⅞	17⅛
Esmark	62⅝	60⅛
Evans P. D.	13⅝	13⅞
Exxon Corp	34⅝	34⅞
Fed Dept Stores	62½	61⅞
Firestone	21⅞	21⅛
Fst Chicago	25½	25⅞

	Apr 27	Apr 28
Fst Intrst Bncp	38¾	38⅛
Fst Penn Corp	6	6⅛
Ford	48⅛	48
GAF Corp	19½	19
GTE Corp	43	42⅞
Gen Dynamics	49⅝	49
Gen Electric	109⅛	110⅛
Gen Foods	45½	45⅞
Gen Mills	54	53⅞
Gen Motors	64⅝	65½
Gen Pub Util NY	8⅝	8⅝
Gen Tire	34⅝	35⅛
Genesco	7	7
Georgia Pacific	28⅞	29⅞
Getty Oil	65½	67
Gillette	45⅝	44⅝
Goodrich	42⅞	41½
Goodyear	32⅛	32⅞
Gould Inc	36⅝	35
Grace	44⅝	44
Gt Atlic & Pacific	11½	11½
Greyhound	23⅝	24⅛
Grumman Corp	60⅞	61⅛
Gulf Oil	35⅞	34¼
Gulf & West	20⅛	20⅞
Heinz H. J.	44½	44½
Hercules	38	38
Honeywell	104⅛	105⅛
IC Inds	41½	41⅛
Ingersoll	45⅛	45
Inland Steel	30⅛	30
IBM	116	117¼
Int Harvester	11½	11⅞
INCO	14⅛	14
Int Paper	55	54⅞
Int Tel Tel	38¾	37⅞
Irving Bank	51½	51⅞
Jewel Co	45⅞	46⅛
Jim Walter	43⅞	43⅞
Johnson & John	46⅞	45
Kaiser Alumin	18⅛	18⅛
Kerr McGee	32	32⅞
Kimberly Clark	87½	88⅝
K Mart	34⅛	34⅝
Kroger	37⅛	36⅞
L.T.V. Corp	18⅛	18⅞
Litton	65⅞	65⅞
Lockheed	118⅞	120⅞
Lucky Stores	20⅞	20⅞
Manuf Hanover	43⅞	43⅞
Manville Cp	14⅛	13⅞
Mapco	24	24
Marine Midland	28⅛	28⅛
Martin Marietta	39½	32⅞
McDonnell	57½	57⅞
Mead	25⅞	26⅞
Merck	90⅛	87
Minnesota Mng	82⅞	80½
Mobil Oil	28⅝	28⅝
Monsanto	88⅞	91
Morgan J. P.	82	82½
Motorola	108⅝	108
NCR Corp.	117	118⅞
NL Industries	17⅛	16⅞
Nabisco	38	38⅞
Nat Distillers	27	27
Nat Med Ent	26⅞	26½
Nat Steel	20⅝	20⅞
Norfolk South	54⅛	53⅞
NW Bancorp	33⅞	33⅞
Norton Simon	24⅛	24⅛
Occidental Pet	20⅞	20⅞
Ogden	29⅞	29⅞
Olin Corp	31⅛	30⅞
Owens-Illinois	33⅛	33⅛
Pacific Gas Elec	31½	31⅞
Pan Am	5⅛	5⅛
Penney J. C.	69⅞	69⅞
Pennzoil	38	37
Pepsico	38	38⅞
Pfizer	82⅞	82⅞
Phelps Dodge	30⅝	30⅞
Philip Morris	64	64½
Phillips Petrol.	35¼	35⅛

	Apr 27	Apr 28
Polaroid	32⅞	33⅛
PPG Ind	64⅞	64
Procter Gamble	62	61⅛
Pub Ser El & Gas	23⅛	23⅛
Raytheon	48⅞	49
RCA Corp	25⅞	25⅞
Republic Steel	23⅛	22⅛
Reynolds Ind	52⅞	51⅛
Reynolds Metal	32⅛	30½
Rockwell Int	36⅞	36
Royal Dutch	41½	42⅛
Safeways	27⅛	27⅛
St Regis Paper	32⅞	32⅞
Santa Fe Ind	28	28
SCM	38⅞	38⅞
Schlumberger	45⅞	45⅞
Scott Paper	23	23⅞
Seagram	30	31½
Sears Roebuck	41	41⅞
Shell Oil	40⅞	41⅞
Shell Trans	30⅛	30⅞
Signal Co	33¼	32
Singer	27½	27⅛
Sony	15	14⅞
Sth Cal Edison	37	36⅞
Southern Pacific	54⅞	55½
Sperry Corp	38⅞	37⅞
Std Oil California	38⅞	38½
Std Oil Indiana	48⅞	49⅞
Std Oil-Ohio	46½	46⅛
Sterling Drug	25⅞	25½
Stevens J. P.	24⅞	24⅛
Sun Comp	37⅞	37⅞
Teledyne	140⅞	141
Tenneco	36½	37
Texaco	35⅞	35⅛
Texas East Corp	33⅞	33⅞
Texas Inst	146⅞	145½
Texas Utilities	24½	24⅞
Textron	30⅞	30⅞
TWA	31½	33⅞
Travelers Corp	33⅞	33
TRW Inc	69⅛	69⅞
UAL Inc	33⅛	34
Union Carbide	63⅞	63⅛
Union Oil Calif	33⅞	33
Un Pacific Corp	51½	52⅛
Uniroyal	13⅞	13⅞
United Brands	11⅞	10⅞
US Industries	14½	14⅛
US Steel	23⅞	23½
Utd Technol	73⅞	74½
Wachovia	40⅞	40⅞
Warner Comm	25⅞	26⅛
Warner Lambert	33⅛	33
Wells Fargo	35⅞	34½
Westinghse Elec	44	47⅞
Weyerhaeuser	38⅞	40
Whirlpool	62⅞	63⅛
Woolworth	34⅛	34⅛
Xerox Corp	45⅞	46⅛
Zenith	19⅞	19

Canadian Prices

	Apr 27	Apr 28
Abitibi	22⅞	22
Alcan Alumin	37½	38
Algoma Steel	32¾	31
Bell Telephone	27½	27⅞
Comtnco	60	59⅞
Cons Bathurst	26⅞	26⅞
Gulf Oil	15⅞	16⅛
Hawker/Sid Can	15⅞	15⅞
Hudson Bay Mng	19⅛	19⅞
Imasco	37½	37¼
Imperial Oil	34⅞	34½
Int Pipe	28⅞	28⅞
Mass.-Ferguson	4⅞	4½
Royal Trust	23⅞	23⅞
Seagram	37	38⅞
Steel Co	29⅞	29⅞
Thomson N 'A'	35⅞	35⅞
Walker Hiram	28⅞	28⅞
WCT	13⅛	13¼

e Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

FOOTBALL: MANAGERS HAVE THEIR SAY AFTER EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP TIES

Injury to Withe disrupts Robson's plans

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

Bobby Robson yesterday lost the England centre forward he found on Wednesday night. Withe broke his thumb during the first half of the European Championship tie against Hungary at Wembly and suffered a depressed fracture of his cheekbone during the second and is out for the rest of the league season.

Robson admitted that he had added Withe to the party merely as "a stop gap" after Woodcock had joined his other preferred choice, Mariner, on the absurdly lengthy injury list. But events during the crucial 2-0 victory persuaded him to review the international prospects of Aston Villa's 31-year-old forward.

Robson picked out Withe for special praise. "He played with great presence, with great passion and skill too," he said. He might have added with not a little courage as well. "He did wonderfully well for the first goal because not many would have held on to the ball in that position." "As for the second," he added, "his chest control was perfect and he will never hit a better cross-shot during the rest of his career."

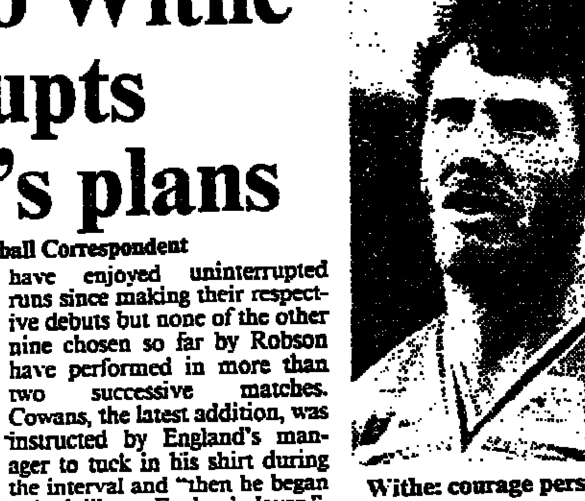
After Mariner's disappointing performance against Wales and Woodcock's wan display against Greece, the weakness of Withe's claim to England's No 9 shirt was to be seen with only X-ray vision. The facial injury, treated during an operation in Birmingham yesterday, is similar to that received by Wilkins, a former captain who missed the match in Greece and has yet to regain his place six months later. Withe's chances of playing in the two remaining home international games and the tour to Australia in June are limited.

Since Robson will want to use those five games as dress rehearsals for the next European Championship fixture, at home against Denmark at the beginning of next season, Withe must wait to see if anyone else steps forward from the chorus line, as he did himself, to take a leading role alongside Francis.

The midfield cast remains as unsettled. Lee and Mabbutt have enjoyed uninterrupted runs since making their respective debuts but none of the other nine chosen so far by Robson have performed in more than two successive matches. Cowans, the latest addition, was "instructed by England's manager to tuck in his shirt during the interval and "then be began to look like an England player."

During the opening half hour, described by Robson as "sketchy", England lacked the authority of Bryan Robson and Wilkins, if not the inspiration of Hoddle. But Cowans struck a perfect free kick for Francis to put them ahead and Lee found Withe with equal precision 20 minutes from the end.

Shilton needed to confirm his class with two important saves but, since the opening group three tie in Copenhagen, England's defence has been disturbed only by two speedy individuals, Rush and Rummenigge, who both struck at Wembley. The Danes are unlikely to allow the evening of September 21 to pass with such serenity.



Withe: courage personified

Hungary, if they beat Greece at home next month, will overtake Denmark, whom they visit on June 1. That, as Robson points out, could be a significant evening. While their only realistic challengers are at play, England are involved in a domestic issue that some regard as equally important, the annual fixture against Scotland. The last time the "auld enemies" met was on the road to Spain but Scotland's path to the European finals in France has already ended. Belgium, who beat East Germany on Wednesday night, extended their lead in group one and can now be caught only by Switzerland.

How they stand at halfway stage

Group three

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
England	5	3	2	0	16	2	8
Denmark	4	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Hungary	3	2	0	1	12	6	4
Greece	4	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Luxembourg	5	0	0	5	5	25	0

Remaining fixtures: Hungary v Greece, May 5; Denmark v Hungary, June 1; England v Denmark, September 21; Hungary v England, October 12; Greece v Denmark, October 26 [illegible]; Luxembourg v England, November 16; Greece v Luxembourg, December 14.

Group seven

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Spain	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Netherlands	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Rep Ireland	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Malta	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Iceland	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Remaining fixtures: Malta v Spain, May 15; Iceland v Spain, May 29; Iceland v Malta, June 5; Netherlands v Iceland, September 7; Iceland v Republic of Ireland, September 21; Republic of Ireland v Netherlands, October 12; Netherlands v Spain, Republic of Ireland v Malta, November 16; Netherlands v Malta, December 17; Spain v Malta, December 21.

GROUP TWO:

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Soviet Union	2	2	0	0	7	0	4
Portugal	3	2	0	1	4	6	4
Poland	3	1	1	1	5	5	3
Finland	4	0	1	3	3	8	1

Group four

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wales	3	2	1	0	[illegible]	4	5
Norway	3	1	1	1	[illegible]	7	3
Yugoslavia	3	1	1	1	[illegible]	7	3
Bulgaria	3	0	1	2	[illegible]	4	1

Remaining fixtures: Norway v Bulgaria, September 7; Norway v Wales, September 21; Yugoslavia v Norway, October 12; Bulgaria v Wales, November 16; Wales v Yugoslavia, December 14; Yugoslavia v Bulgaria, December 21.

Group one

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Belgium	4	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	4	8
Scotland	4	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	7	3
Switzerland	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	5	3
East Germany	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	6	0

Remaining fixtures: Switzerland v East Germany, [illegible]; Switzerland v Belgium, [illegible]; East Germany v Belgium, [illegible] East Germany v Scotland, [illegible]; [illegible] v Scotland, November 16.

Group six

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Austria	4	3	1	0	11	0	7
N Ireland	5	3	1	1	4	3	7
W Germany	4	2	1	1	5	2	5
Turkey	4	1	0	3	2	9	2
Albania	5	0	1	4	1	8	1

Remaining fixtures: Albania v Turkey, May 12; Albania v Austria, June 8; Northern Ireland v Austria, September 21; West Germany v Austria, October 5; Turkey v Northern Ireland, October 12; West Germany v Turkey, October 26, West Germany v Northern Ireland, Turkey v Austria, November 16; West Germany v Albania, November 20.

Eggs and euphoria for the Welshmen

By Peter Ball

The right result covers a lot of cracks, and it was understandable that Mike England was in turns relaxed and ethusiastic over breakfast in his Llangollen hotel yesterday morning. The goal by the substitute Jeremy Charles which overcame Bulgaria's determined resistance had been a long time coming, but its significance cannot be overestimated, for it leaves Wales, and England, well-placed to make up for their World Cup disappoutment by qualifying for next summer's European Championship finals for the first time.

Bulgaria were always likely to prove difficult opposition, although the quality of their breaks came as a surprise, and it was a tribute to Welsh determination that once again they snatched a win without ever striking any sort of rhythm and with Rush, their most dangerous forward, clearly less than fully fit.

With five points from three games in group four, including a possibly crucial away point from the game against Yugoslavia, they could not have made a better beginning to their quest. The performances of Southall in goal and Ratcliffe, fitting in excellently in his preferred position as second centre half, also provided considerable encouragement for England.

England was quick to praise both those players. and he reflected: "There's a long way to go. We'll keep grinding away. Last night's performance showed the character of the squad, which I can't speak too highly of. Welsh players are fantastic, they have fantastic character which they've shown in coming back after the disappointment of the World Cup."

But England is also aware that although character can take you a long way in international football, at the highest level you need good players, and there his options are limited. Although be speaks enthusiastically of the young players coming through in time for the World Cup, for the moment he has few possibilities beyond the players already in the team. The forthcoming British Championship matches and the match against Brazil offer some opportunity for experiment, with Charles, Hopkins and possibly the young Newport players, Vaughan and Lowndes, in line for starting places. But the search for a creative player so far has been fruitless.

Irish like big time

By David Powell

Northern Ireland are planning to fire their next European Championship shot not in the group six match with Austria in September but against England in the British Championship on May 28. Although the Irish must wait another five months before meeting the group leaders their manager, Billy Bingham, believes that progress can be made next month along the path to next summer's finals in France.

He hopes to persuade West Germany, before the nations meet in what may be the deciding fixtures, that his team have developed a liking for the big stage and intend to entertain in France as they did in Spain last year.

"If we can beat England it will be a marvellous psychological boost for us", Bingham said yesterday. "It will make West Germany think and send a tremor around the ring of fire". The Germans, twice winners and once beaten finalists in the last three European Championships, have dropped three points in their four matches so far and dare not concede any more in the second half of their programme.

Bingham, who is confident that Austria's unbeaten sequence will end at Windsor Park, considers the Germans the most likely group winners. They have four home matches remaining. Austria, have four away, and Ireland receive Austria before travelling to Turkey then Germany. It is Bingham's track record in Belfast, the city of his birth, that makes him so sure that his small but closely knit band of players will be in contention to the last qualifying game.

The 1-0 win over Albania on Wednesday night preserved an impressive sequence for Bingham of nine home matches without defeat, conceding only two goals, in his period as manager. "It is important to keep that continuity against England".

Stewart, the youngest member of the team by three years, turned in McIlroy's pass to defeat Albania and must now be wondering when his colleagues in attack, who have yet to score in the European Championship, will follow his example.

The winger kept Albania guessing with a mixture of trickery and perceptive passing but will need to ride a greater percentage of tackles if Bingham is to find subscribers to his opinion that Stewart resembles George Best. "He has a low cente of gravity, terrific speed and a talent to go past people", Bingham said. Belfast has another local boy making good.

TENNIS

Gunfire stops play on court

By Rex Bellamy
Tennis Correspondent

Richard Lewis beat Robin Drysdale 6-3, 4-6, 7-5 to reach the last eight of the men's singles in the British Home Stores tournament at Hampstead yesterday. The content and consequence of the match were of less interest than the scoring sheet, which will become a collector's item. The umpire, Pamela Croome, of Claygate, dutifully made the following notes: "3.05 – gunfire stopped play! 3.26 – gunmen left – four mins warm-up".

Three men on the roof of a house about 100 yards away had been attracting attention for some time. When Lewis was serving his second ball at 2-3 and 30-40 down in the second set (and facing the relevant roof), he heard something whiz through the air and land on the court. He lost the point and discovered a pellet. "I wasn't playing all that well," he – said later, "but I didn't think it was that bad".

More clicking nioses followed and play was suspended. Police rounded up the culprits and confiscated an air-rifle, an air pistol and a pair of binoculars. The offenders were reported to West Hampstead police station, where an officer stated: "Summonses will be applied for at a future date and no doubt they will appear in court."

Except for all that, the most remarkable feature of the day was the appearance of the caplessly unfamiliar Frew McMillan. Aged 40, McMillan lives at Bristol. He has shared five doubles championships at Wimbledon and last year was runner-up to John Newcombe in the over-35 singles.

Uncommonly fit and (in doubles) highly ranked for his years, McMillan is now concentrating on doubles and the over-35 circuit. But invitations to the latter sometimes seen to be largely a matter of chance, so he has to ply his trade where and when he can.

This tournament, the fortyninth at the Cumberland Club, is one of those essential events at which players on the way up meet those on the way down and those who are not going anywhere in particular. In short, it is midway up the ladder: and ladders without a middle in them are not much use. In the singles the organizers use what is known as a "tableau finale", a system by which 64 competitors play down to eight and then join eight previously exempt seeds.

The total prize-money is a modest £4.500 but this is nevertheless a delightfull traditional and predominantly British tournament played on an island of greenness and flowers and bird-song amid a built-up suburban environment. It is a pleasant spot for respected, of not renowned, players to try a few shots – but never, until yesterday, the king that briefly flew towards a British Davis Cup player.

MEN'S SINGLES: Third round: C Bradnam bt C Emery, 6-0, 5-7, 6-1; R Drysdale bt D Watt, 6-2, 5-7, 6-2; P Moore bt S Jones, 7-6, 3-6, 6-2. Fourth round: M Myburg (SA) bt L Alfred, 4-6, 6-1, 7-5; N Sears bt D Shaw, 7-6, 2-6, 6-2; F McMillan (SA) bt S Bale, 6-2, 6-2; J Feaver bt R Scott, 7-5, 6-1; Bradnam bt A Pienaar (SA), 7-6, 6-2; J Dier bt Moore, 6-1, 6-3; S Shaw bt M Holland, 4-6, 6-2, 9-7; R Lewis bt Drysdale, 6-3, 4-6, 7-5.

WOMEN'S SINGLES: Third round: J Reeves bt S Leech, 6-1, 7-6; L Greaves by V Marler (Aus), 6-4, 6-3; R Mentz (SA) bt S Sullivan, 6-3, 6-3; L Gracie bt L Fargerald (Aus), 6-1, 6-2; S Rojas (Mex) bt L Bayly (Aus), 6-2, 6-1. Fourth round: D Garrett bt M Reinach (SA), 6-3, retired; D Parnell w S Reeves, SCR: Mentz (SA) bt S Walpole, 6-4, 6-1; J Salmon bt C Drury, 6-2, 3-6, 6-1; Rojas (Mex) wo A Iuale (It). A Brown bt L Greaves, 6-1, 6-2; L Stewart (NZ) bt J Reeves, 6-3, 7-6; E Jones bt L Gracie, 5-7, 6-4, 6-4. Quarter-finals: Mentz bt Salmon, 6-0, 6-0.

SNOOKER



Thornburn: snooker is the cue for a game of patience

Davis pins down the mercurial Irishman

By Sydney Friskin

Steve Davis, the 1981 champion, was all grace and ease against the defending champion, Alex Higgins, when their semi-final of the world championship, sponsored by Embassy, began at the Crucible Theatre, Sheffield, yesterday. There is a long way to go in this 31-frame match which will take its followers into the afternoon of tomorrow but by the end of the first period yesterday Davis had taken a 5-2 lead over the mercurial Irishman.

At the other end of the draw Tony Knowles, having beaten Tony Meo 13-9, has been looking sharper than he has been for several months. He was ready for action against the marathon man of snooker, Cliff Thorburn, of Canada. This match too will not be decided until tomorrow.

It was no until the seventh frame yesterday that Higgins quickened the pulse of his audience with a break of 71. He had scratched and scraped in the early exchanges, though admittedly the balls had rolled none too kindly for him, and he found himself three frames down. Davis meanwhile had potted with growing assurance, missing very little and was quick to consolidate. He had breaks of 56 in the first frame and 47 in the third.

It was only after a brief struggle that Higgins managed to win the fourth frame and he was encouraged by a hurried shot from Davis on the brown. Higgins made a break of 54 but could rarely display his natural gifts. After a brief interval Davis came back to restore his three-frame advantage. He also won the fifth frame without a fight and was so fluent in the sixth that he left Higgins with little chance.

When a break of 33 put him 91-13 in front Higgins was left with only the humble pickings. Then came the break of 71 which made Higgins feel a lot more comfortable.

When both players face reporters during the interval Higgins did most of the talking. "I still think I'm playing fairly well. I've been looking forward to this confrontation". Davis, however was still completely relaxed. And Higgns was a little edgy.

For the second time this week Cliff Thorburn, of Canada, dragged a match into the early hours of the morning. At 2.12 yesterday his compatriot, Kirk Stevens, shook hands with him in conceding at 13-12, a victory which put Thorburn in the semi-final round. This was a great feat of endurance by both players, who played for 12hrs 32mins. The deciding 25th frame was the longest: it lasted 61mins, eight more than its predecessor.

Thorburn, with sustained patience and concentration, won the last three frames, escaping from the jaws of defeat when Stevens, leading 12-10, suffered from a momentary lapse of concentration to miss the yellow, aimed at one of the side pockets. The colours were in position for a match-winning run, but it was Thorburn who eventually potted them to stay in the match.

Slowly but surely Thorburn won the next frame and the stage was set for a showdown. But Thorburn had the stamina to draw ahead and, with the colours remaining, he left Stevens requiring two snookers. He obtained one of them, but his plans for another failed and his chances receded when he conceded points on a foul stroke. Eventually, after Thorburn had potted the blue, Stevens, who had raised his game to unexpected heights, thought that enough was enough.

Quarter-final: C Thorburn (Can) bt K Stevens (Can), 13-12. Frame scores (Thorburn first) 65-48, 64-34, 80-35, 80-9, 21-71, 87-33, 5-69, 32-66, 33-90, 57-59, 105-33, 69-51, 12-82, 20-99, 86-15, 28-82, 58-58, 74-66, 58-68, 83-8, 2-68, 59-64, 67-25, 73-29, 65-44.

Wednesday's result: A Knowles bt A Meo, 13-9. Frame scores (Knowles first): 68-8, 52-35, 99-4, 125-11, 91-1, 22-91, 14-77, 83-1, 31-82, 61-67, 72-48, 53-60, 51-65, 77-18, 130-1, 15-83, 85-24, 53-65, 47-75, 75-46, 74-23, 66-11.

Renewing the struggle

From the stream of political undercurrents has emerged the well-known saying: "If you can't beat 'em join 'em." Mike Watterson, of Snooksport, may not win his battle against the World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association (WPBSA) but he intends to stand for the post of director with this organization at their annual general meeting on May 3, Sydney Friskin writes.

"I have been put up for this appointment," he said, "and I have accepted the nomination." Not given to taking setbacks lying down, he intends to have something to say.

Mr Watterson is hurt because his contract to promote the next world professional snooker championship is not being renewed. The event is to be promoted by the newly-formed WPBSA Promotions Ltd.

CRICKET: WEATHER STILL HOLDS THE UPPER HAND

'Whale' makes bow wave at Lord's

By John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent

The weather at Lord's yesterday was perfect for cricket. It was warm for time of year: the sun shone almost without interruption. Spectators picknicked in their shirt-sleeves. The only trouble was that the ground was so hopelessly waterlogged that for the second day running no play was possible in the match between MCC and Middlesex.

At lunchtime, as a reminder that cricket, despite the climate, still has a wide and eager readership, Allen and Unwin, the publishers, launched or relaunched various books on the game. E. M. Wellings, the author of the most pungent of them (*Vintage Cricketers*, £9.95, was playing in 1931 when Herbert Sutcliffe, in one of the wettest summers recorded, scored 3,306 runs at an average of 96.96.

"Such deplorable weather was experienced last summer," *Wisdom* wrote, "that coming on top of an almost equally wet season in 1930, the loss of money rendered the position of several of the less wealthy counties to a degree." Even so, Vallance Jupp played no fewer than 60 first-class innings. Yesterday the players were able to let off steam in the indoor school, which was not, of course, in existence in 1931. Middlesex have still had only one day's cricket in the middle.

Rain today will jeopardize even tomorrow's cricket at Lord's and the Oval. And if the best way to dry the grounds would be to tow them to the Indian Ocean or the Caribibean, someone, you may be sure, would object to one or more of the players on board.

As the new machine at Lord's – called a "whale", it served its apprenticeship in Melbourne – plied its way across the square, it created a bow wave. There was no way of playing cricket – even a game with no points at stake and with two captains, Gower and Gatting, who know, without being told, that it is less than eight weeks to the longest day.

Lever has Cambridge in trouble

CAMBRIDGE: Essex, with eight second innings wickets in hand, lead Cambridge University by 393 runs.

John Lever, the former England fast bowler, took seven wickets for 63 for Essex against Cambridge University at Fenner's yesterday. The University were all out for 165 – a deficit of 210 runs – with Curtis (50) providing the only real opposition to Lever.

Fletcher, the Essex captain, did not enforce the follow-on, but juggled with his batting order to give Pringle and McEwan practice. They put on 165 before Pringle (83) was caught off Pollock, who in his next over dismissed McEwan (86). Essex ended the day at 182 for two wickets.



Lever: seven wickets

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY: First Innings	
T S Curtis c Gooch b R E East	50
D W Varey l-b-w b Lever	0
R J Boyd-Moss c D E East b Lever	15
*S P Henderson b Lever	6
A Odendaal l-b-w b Lever	7
P G Roebuck c Turner b Lever	19
K I Hodgson c Ackfield b Lever	26
S J G Doggart not out	29
V A Cotterell l-b-w b Lever	4
†A G Davis c D E East b Turner	0
A J Pollock b Turner	4
Extras (l-b 2, n-b 3)	5
Total	165

FALL OF WICKETS: 1–1, 2–45, 3–57, 4–80, 5–86, 6–128, 7–133, 8–144, 9–145, 10–165.

BOWLING: Lever, 22-8-63-7; Pringle, 14-4-32-0; Turner, 15.1-5-22-2; R E East, 12-7-16-1; Ackfield, 15-8-21-0; Gooch, 2-1-6-0.

Umpires: J Birkenshaw and C T Spencer

ESSEX: First Innings, 375 for 8 dec (G A Gooch 174, B R Hardie 129)

Second Innings	
K S McEwan, c Cotterill b Pollock	86
D R Pringle, c Doggart b Pollock	83
K R Pont, not out	0
†K W R Fletcher, not out	10
Extras (b2, w1)	3
Total (2 wkts)	182

FALL OF WICKETS: 1–165, 2–172

Five Blues available to Toogood

By Richard Streeton

Oxford University and Somerset, provided the weather relents, hope to play a 50-over match in the Parks today. Permission was obtained from Lord's for their scheduled three-day fixture to be abandoned yesterday after a start could not be made for the second day in succession. Overnight rain again left the field soaked.

Both teams are desperate for practice. Somerset's outdoor preparation at Taunton this April has been limited to one afternoon in which their batsmen each had 15 minutes' practice. "We would play on virtually anything at the moment; our bowlers, especially, badly need the chance of a bowl," the captain, Brian Rose, said.

Rose smiled when asked if Somerset's enforced inactivity made a certain Scunthorpe footballer the fittest member of their side. Botham missed this visit to Oxford because of a ceremony on Wednesday evening, when he received the freedom of Yeovil. By a twist of fate, Rose understood the nets at Taunton had dried out yesterday and that Botham was able to practise in perfect conditions.

Giles Toogood, the Oxford captain, had five other Blues available this term. Inevitably, they include that permanent resident, Roger Moulding, who has already established a record in modern times by playing five times at Lord's against Cambridge. He should complete his DPhil thise year, but before that will doubtless be at Lord's for the sixth time on June 29.

Oxford's other Blues available are Richard Ellis, last year's captain and a Middlesex player; Kevin Hayes, who has played for Lancashire; Jonathan Varey, whose twin brother, David, plays for Cambridge; and Richard Luddington, who also has rugby and hockey Blues.

Stuart Ridge, who opened the bowling at Lord's in 1982, is in residence but is not available; R A B Ezekowitz, who opened Oxford's batting in 1980 and 1981, is also in residence but has already obtained his DPhil. The University cricket club are not anxious to have another Boat Race controversy on their hands.

Among the freshmen are John Carr, the son of Donald Carr, the Test and County Cricket Board secretary. John Carr has batted No. 4 for Hertfordshire and also bowls off breaks. Another newcomer is Mark Cullinan, a wicket keeper-batsman.

Denton pays call – and faces Lendl

From a Special Correspondent, Dallas

Breaking his journey to Houston and calling in at the World Championship Tennis finals proved a lucky decision for Steve Denton, a husky Texan. He was brought in as substitute for the injured Brian Teacher, proceeded to beat Paul McNamee of Australia, 6-4, 5-7, 7-6, 7-6, and is now in the quarter final round, in which he faces Ivan Lendl, the defending champion.

Denton was still wiping sleep from his eyes when he learnt around midday that he would be playing. "I never gave it a thought that I would have a chance of playing, for I was fourth in line of reserves behind Johan Kriek, Mark Dickson and Heinz Gunthardt. Kriek and Dickson had started other tournaments; Gunthardt was still in Europe."

Denton, 6ft 2in of explosive power, particularly with his service, had just completed a hectic three days of playing in three different cities and in between flying had managed only five hours' sleep a night. He has never played in the WCT finals before.

The curious twist of his meeting with McNamee is that it was on the strength of his win when they last met at Houston earlier this month that the Australian earned his Dallas place. On that occasion McNamee won in straight sets. This time it proved a much tougher encounter, lasting 2hrs 52mins – the longest match of the tournament so far – and it did not finish until well past midnight, by which time most of the crowd of 9,000 had left the huge Reunion arena.

With the last two sets needing tiebreaks there was every prospect of a fifth. It all ended on a somewhat sour note, with McNamee shouting to the umpire that he had been cheated over a line decision when the line judge kept quiet and refused to answer his appeals.

Guide to the season's competitions

World Cup

Holders: West Indies

Contested by the seven full members of the International Cricket Conference (England, Australia, India, New Zealand, West Indies, Pakistan and Sri Lanka) and the winners of the ICC Trophy for associate members (Zimbabwe). Teams are drawn in two qualifying groups of four, in which they meet each other twice. The winners and runners-up in each group go forward to the semi-finals, which are played as a knock-out.

SPONSORS: Prudential Assurance (total sponsorship £500,000).

DATES: group matches (at 15 Test and county grounds), June 9, 11, 13, 15, 16, 18, 20; semi-finals (Old Trafford and the Oval), June 22; final (Lord's) June 25.

DURATION OF MATCHES: 60 overs a side. If the weather interferes, a second day is available for play in the group matches and a third also for the semi-finals and final. The side batting second must receive 30 overs to constitute a match. If that is not possible, group matches will be declared "no result"; the faster scoring-rate in all previous matches will decide knock-out matches.

HOURS OF PLAY: 10.45 to 7.30; final day, 10.45 to 5.0 (the umpires may order extra time to obtain a finish).

POINTS (group matches only): 4 for a win, 2 for no result. In the event of a tie, positions will be determined by the greater number of wins; if teams are still equal, by the faster scoring-rate.

PRIZE-MONEY: winners, £20,000; runners-up, £8,000; beaten semi-finalists, £2,000; winners of group matches, £1,000. Man of the match: £200 (group matches); £400 (semi-finals); £600 (final).

SPECIAL REGULATIONS: maximum of 12 overs per bowler (reduced in a restricted match); at the moment of delivery a minimum of four fielders (plus the bowler and wicketkeeper) to be within an area marked by two semi-circles of 30-yards radius, centred on each middle stump and joined by parallel lines on each side of the pitch.

Test series

England will meet New Zealand in a series of four matches after the World Cup.

SPONSORS: Cornhill Insurance (£600,000).

DATES: first Test (the Oval), July 14 to 18; second Test (Headingley), July 28 to August 2; third Test (Lord's), August 11 to 15; fourth Test (Trent Bridge), August 25 to 29. The matches at the Oval and Trent Bridge include play on Sunday and thus have no rest day.

DURATION OF MATCHES: five days, a minimum of 96 overs to be bowled on each day.

HOURS OF PLAY: 11.0 to 6.0 (or, if later, when 96 overs have been bowled). Sunday: 12.0 to 7.0. If one hour or more is lost on any of the first four days, play may be extended until 7.0 (8.0 on Sundays).

PRIZE MONEY: £5,000 for the winners of a match. Player of the match £500. Man of the series: £1,000.

SPECIAL REGULATIONS: only one bouncer an over permitted; a minimum of 20 overs to be bowled from the start of the last hour on the final day; follow-on: 200 runs.

County championship

Holders: Middlesex

Contested by the 17 first-class counties, who play eight of the others twice and the remaining eight once.

SPONSORS: Schweppes (£250,000).

DATES: April 30 to September 13.

DURATION OF MATCHES: three days (starting Saturday and Wednesday).

HOURS OF PLAY: 11.0 to 6.30 (third day, 11.0 to 5.30 or 6.0). In matches containing Sunday play: first day, 11.0 to 6.30; second day, 1.30 to 7.0; third day, 11.0 to 6.0 or 6.30.

POINTS: 16 for a win; 8 for a tie; 8 for a side batting last in a drawn match in which the scores finish level; 12 for a win in a one-innings match (when play starts with less then eight hours' playing time remaining).

BONUS POINTS: (available for first 100 overs of each side's first innings): Batting – 150-199 runs, 1; 200-249, 2; 250-299, 3; 300 upwards, 4. Bowling – 3-4 wickets, 1; 5-6, 2; 7-8, 3; 9-10, 4.

PRIZE-MONEY: Champions, £14,000; runners-up, £7,000; third, £3,500; Fourth, £1,750. Match won: £150. Each bonus point: £5.

SPECIAL REGULATIONS: only one bouncer an over permitted; a minimum of 20 overs to be bowled from the start of the last hour on the final day; fines on a sliding scale starting at £1,000 for counties failing to maintain an average of 19 overs an hour over the first and second halves of the season; follow-on, 150 runs.

Tour matches

Apart from the Test matches and World Cup, the New Zealanders will play three-day fixtures against nine of the counties and at the Scarborough Festival.

DATES: July 2 to September 2.

DURATION OF MATCHES: Three days (starting Saturday and Wednesday), a minimum of 96 overs to be bowled on each day.

HOURS OF PLAY: 11.30 to 6.30 (third day, 11.0 to 5.30 or 6.0). In matches containing Sunday play: first day, 11.0 to 6.0; second day, 12.0 to 7.0; third day, 11.30 to 6.0 or 6.30. (Play will continue, if necessary, on all days until 96 overs have been bowled.)

SPECIAL REGULATIONS: only one bouncer an over permitted; a minimum of 20 overs to be bowled from the start of the last hour on the final day; follow-on: 150 runs.

NatWest Bank Trophy

Holders: Surrey

Contested by the 17 first-class counties, last season's leading 13 minor counties, Ireland and Scotland on a knock-out basis.

SPONSORS: National Westminster Bank (£324,000).

DATES: first round, June 29; second round, July 20; quarter-finals, August 3; semi-finals, August 17; final (Lord's), September 3.

DURATION OF MATCHES: 60 overs a side. If the weather interferes, two further days are available. The side batting second must receive 20 overs to constitute a match, although umpires may order a match of a minimum of 10 overs a side on the final day. If that is not possible, the toss of a coin (or some other means agreed by the captains) will decide.

HOURS OF PLAY: 10.30 to 7.30 (the Umpires may order extra time to obtain a finish).

PRIZE-MONEY: winners, £13,000; runners-up £6,500; beaten semi-finalists, £3,750; beaten quarter-finalists, £2,000. Man of the match: £100 (first and second rounds); £175 (quarter-finals); £250 (semi-finals); £500 (final).

SPECIAL REGULATIONS: maximum of 12 overs per bowler (reduced in a restricted match); fielding restricted as for World Cup.

Benson and Hedges Cup

Holders: Somerset

Contested by the 17 first-class counties, Minor Counties, Combined (Oxford and Cambridge) Universities and Scotland. Teams are drawn in four qualifying groups of five, in which they meet each other once. The winners and runners-up in each group go forward to the quarter-finals and the competition is thereafter contested as a knock-out.

SPONSORS: Benson and Hedges (275,000).

DATES: group matches, May 7, 14, 17, 19, 21; quarter-finals, June 1; semi-finals, July 6; final (Lord's), July 23.

DURATION OF MATCHES: 55 overs a side. If the weather interferes, a second day is available for play in the group match and a third also for the knock-out rounds. The side batting second must receive 20 overs to constitute a match, although the umpires may order a match of a minimum of 10 overs a side on the final day. If that is not possible, group matches will be declared "no result"; the toss of a coin will decide knock-out matches.

HOURS OF PLAY: 11.0 to 7.30 (the umpires may order extra time to obtain a finish).

POINTS (group matches only): 2 for a win, 1 for no result. In the event of a tie, positions are determined by the bowlers' striking-rate (balls bowled divided by wickets taken).

PRIZE-MONEY: winners, £13,000; runners-up, £6,500; beaten semi-finalists, £3,000; beaten quarter-finalists, £1,750; winners of group matches, £450. Gold award: £75 (group matches); £175 (quarter-finals; £250 (semi-finals); £500 (final).

SPECIAL REGULATIONS: maximum of 11 overs per bowler (reduced in a restricted match); fielding restrictions as for World Cup.

John Player

Holders: Sussex

Contested by the 17 first-class counties, who play each other once.

SPONSORS: John Player Special (total figure unavailable).

DATES: every Sunday from May 8 to September 11.

DURATION OF MATCHES: 40 overs a side. If the weather interferes, a minimum of 10 overs a side constitutes a match.

HOURS OF PLAY: 2.0 to 6.40 (but play may continue until 7.0 to complete the overs).

POINTS: 4 for a win; 2 for a tie; 2 for no result.

PRIZE MONEY: Champions, £13,000; runners-up, £6,500; third, £3,250; fourth, £1,750. (If the leading teams finishing level on points, positions are determined by: most wins; most away wins; overall run-rate *in that order*.) Winners of each match: £275. Batting award (most sixes in season): £350. Bowling award (taker of four wickets in an innings most times): £350. Fastest televised fifty: £250.

Compiled by Marcus Williams

Amarnath leads Indian recovery

St John's, Antigua – India, put in to bat in the fifth and final Test match against West Indies, lost their openers, Gavaskar and Gaekwad, before lunch on the first day here yesterday. Amarnath, who had led a recovery, retired hurt after scoring 39.

INDIA: First Innings	
S M Gavaskar c Dujon b Marshall	13
A D Gaekwad c Richards b Roberts	3
M Amarnath retired hurt	39
D B Vengsarkar not out	34
Extras (4)	4
Total (Two wkts)	98

Yashpal Sharma, R J Shastri, *Kapil Dev, †S M H Kirmani, S Madan Lal, L Sivaramakrishnan and S Venkataraghavan to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1–5, 2–18.

BOWLING: Roberts 5-2-19-1; Holding, 5-1-19-0; Marshall, 7-1-22-1; Davis, 4-0-30-0; Richards, 4-2-4-0; Gomes, 0.3-0-0-0.

Umpires: D M Archer and R Weeks.

WEST INDIES: C G Greenidge, D L Haynes, I V A Richards, H A Gomes, A L Logie, *C H Lloyd, †P J Dujon, M D Marshall, A M E Roberts, M A Holding and W W Davis.

Strike averted

A 24-hour strike by players of Hartlepool was called off last night when they were paid their wages a week late. The fourth division club's players walked out and refused to train after being told that the money, due last Thursday, was not yet available.

● Worcestershire are reducing admission prices to the unemployed for midweek county matches this season and also cutting admission prices for families for John Player League matches.

● Lancashire's chairman, Cedric Rhoades, said yesterday that in a poll among the county's members 75 per cent were against four-day championship matches. He said: "Lancashire will fight any attempt to bring in the four-day game. It would mean a drastic reduction in fixtures and revenue".

FOR THE RECORD

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Minnesota Twins 5, Cleveland Indians 3; New York Yankees 6, Kansas City Royals 2; Toronto Blue Jays 3, Texas Rangers 2; Boston Red Sox 2, Seattle Mariners 1; Milwaukee Brewers 6, Chicago White Sox 2; Baltimore Orioles 6, Oakland Athletics 0; California Angels 13, Detroit Tigers 3.

NATIONAL LEAGUE: San Francisco Giants 3, Pittsburgh Pirates 2; New York Mets 2, Cincinatti Reds 1; St Louis Cardinals 7, Los Angeles Dodgers 6; Houston Astros 4, Montreal Expos 2; Chicago Cubs 5, San Diego Padres 4 (10 innings); Philadelphia Phillies 6, Atlanta Braves 2.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Best-of-seven series: Philadelphia 76ers 98, New York Knicks 91 (Sixers lead 2-0); Milwaukee Bucks 116, Boston Celtics 115 (Bucks lead 1-0).

CYCLING

SARONNI: Tour of Spain, ninth stage: 1, G Saronni (It), 4hr 31min 1sec; 2, P Munoz (Sp), 4:31.05; 3, L Fignon (Fr), 4:31.06; 4, E Vanderaerden (Bel), 4:31.07. Overall: 1, M Lejarreta (Sp), 45:50.17; 2, J Gorospe (Sp), 45:50.50; 3, A Fernandez (Sp), 45:50.52; 4, P Munoz (Sp), 45:52.30.

DIVING

WOODLANDS, Texas: World Cup championships: Women's 3-metre springboard: 1, Peng Yuanchun (China); 2, W Wyland (US); 3, S Bernier (Can). Men's 10-metre platform: 1, G Louganis (US); 2, B Kimball (US); 3, Tong Hui (Chi). Team: 1, United States; 2, China; 3, Soviet Union.

ICE HOCKEY

MUNICH: World championship: Soviet Union 4, Sweden 0.

TENNIS

ATLANTA: Women's Grand Prix tournament: Second round: K Jordan (US) beat S Walsh (US), 7-5, 1-6, 6-4; A Smith (US) beat A Moulton (US), 6-4, 6-4.

TENNIS

TAMPA: Grand Prix tournament. Mens singles, first round: M Bauer (US) bt S Mayer (US), 6-3, 6-7, 7-6; J Kriek (SA) bt R Tanner (US), 7-5, 6-7, 6-3. Second round: T Cain (US) bt M Dickson (US), 5-7, 6-3, 7-6; J Fitzgerald (Aus) bt U Amritraj (Ind), 6-1, 6-2; M De Palmer (US) bt M Estep (US), 6-3, 6-3; F Buehning (US) bt E Fromm (US), 6-3, 6-2.

Wednesday's results

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Group one: Belgium 2, East Germany 1. Group two: Soviet Union 5, Portugal 0. Group three: England 2, Hungary 0; Denmark 1, Greece 0. Group four: Wales 1, Bulgaria 0. Group six: Austria 0, Germany 0; N Ireland 1, Albania 0; Group seven: Spain 2, Republic of Ireland 0.

INTERNATIONAL: Sweden 3, Netherlands 0.

SECOND DIVISION: Leeds United 1, Sheffield Wednesday 2.

THIRD DIVISION: Oxford United 1, Millwall 0.

SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION: Kilmarnock 2, St Mirren 2; Motherwell 0, Aberdeen 3.

SCOTTISH SECOND DIVISION: Cowdenbeath 4, Stranraer 0.

RUGBY UNION: The prop forward, Gordon Sargent, is to return to Gloucester as captain, less than a year after leaving because he felt he had been treated unfairly. He has been with Lydney this season, but was overwhelmingly selected as captain by Gloucester players

RUGBY LEAGUE

Cup mercy for Kemble

Gary Kemble, the Hull and New Zealand full back, breathed a sigh of relief after yesterday's disciplinary committee meeting in Leeds, Keith Macklin writes. He received a one-match suspension, and so will be able to play for Hull in the Challenge Cup final against Featherstone Rovers at Wembley on May 7. He misses Sunday's Premiership semi-final with Leeds.

The man who was sent off with Kemble for fighting, the Hull Kingston Rovers full back, Paul Lydiat, also received a one-match suspension. He misses Sunday's premiership semi-final with Widnes, which gives Rovers a problem since George Fairbairn, who would have moved back to full back from centre, is injured. Robinson will probably take over.

Tony Johnson, the Huddersfield forward on loan to Hunslet, received a ban of eight matches. Four were for tripping in the Hunslet v Salford game, and four for illegal use of the elbow in an A team game against Leeds.

Other suspensions were: Four matches: Bob Blackwood (Salford). Gordon Pritchard (Cardiff City). Roger Hudson (Batley) Les Bolton (Swinton).

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

Second division
Charlton Athletic v Shrewsbury Town

Third division
Southend United v Walsall

Fourth division
Colchester United v Bristol City
Halifax v Hartlepool United
Port Vale v Peterborough United

RUGBY UNION

CLUB MATCH: St Ives v Cardiff (6.30)

CRICKET

LORD'S: MCC v Middlesex (11.0 to 5.30 or 6.0)
FENNER'S: Cambridge University v Essex (11.0 to 5.30 or 6.0
THE PARKS: Oxford University v Somerset (11.0, 50 overs)
SECOND XI CAMPIONSHIP: Taunton: Somerset v Warwickshire (11.0 to 5.30 or 6.0)

OTHER SPORT

ATHLETICS: Cambridge University v RAF (Cambridge)
TENNIS: Cumberland tournament (at Hampstead)
SNOOKER: World Professional Championship (at the Crucible Theatre, Sheffield

هكذا من الاهل

RACING: CRIQUETTE HEAD BECOMES FIRST LADY OF THE ENGLISH CLASSICS

Ma Biche pays back a shaikh's ransom

By Michael Seely

The enormous Arabian investment in bloodstock reaped its richest dividend so far this season when Freddie Head rode Ma Biche to a decisive victory in the 1,000 guineas at Newmarket yesterday. During the winter Maktoum al Maktoum paid more than $2m for last season's Cheveley Park Stakes winner. Yesterday Ma Biche looked a bargain at that price as she stormed home, clear of rivals.

This victory also represented a personal triumph for Criquette Head. In 1979 she became the first woman to train a Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe winner when Three Troikas beat Le Marmot and Troy. And yesterday she became the first of her sex to saddle an English Classic winner.

Watching the finish it was easy to understand why people are prepared to spend kings ransoms on thoroughbreds. Nothing can equal the thrill of watching top-class horses strive for supremacy. This emotion is obviously felt by Shaikh Maktoum who said "Camel racing is *for fun. This is better*".

The excitement reached a crescendo as Head sent the 5-2 favourite into the lead at the foot of the hill. Staying on with utmost determination Ma Biche won by one and a half lengths from Royal Heroine with Favoridge a head away third. Habibti finished fourth ahead of Rare Roberta and Annie Edge.

Crime of Passion made the running until Walter Swinburn set sail for home on Royal Heroine at the Bushes. At this point Habibti and Rarre Roberta were well placed. Pat Eddery was poised on the outside to challenge on Favoridge, who was not travelling quite as sweetly as you would have expected. To the second favourite's credit she never gave up trying and after looking dangerous for a few strides a furlong from home, she was outstayed by both the winner and the second.

Michael Stoute has now had the frustrating experience of saddling the runner up in the 1,000 guineas for the third time. Fair Salina having finished second to Enstone Park in 1978 and Our Home to Quick as Lightning in 1980. Royal Heroine is now favourite at 8-1 for her attempt to repeat Fair Salina's triumph in the Oaks for the stable.

Head has been French champion jockey several times and has won four Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe. Yet curiously enough his only previous English classic success was gained on Zino in last year's 2,000 Guineas. Yesterday the skilful jockey executed the time-honoured manoeuvre of using the downhill run into the dip to gain momentum.

Mrs Head is obviously not aware of these fine points as her *broher*. "*Freddie hit the front* far too soon. I shall have to speak to him about it afterwards", was her hypercritical comment afterwards. The jockey however was unrepentant about his handling of the three-year-old, whom he called "the best filly over a mile that I have ever ridden".

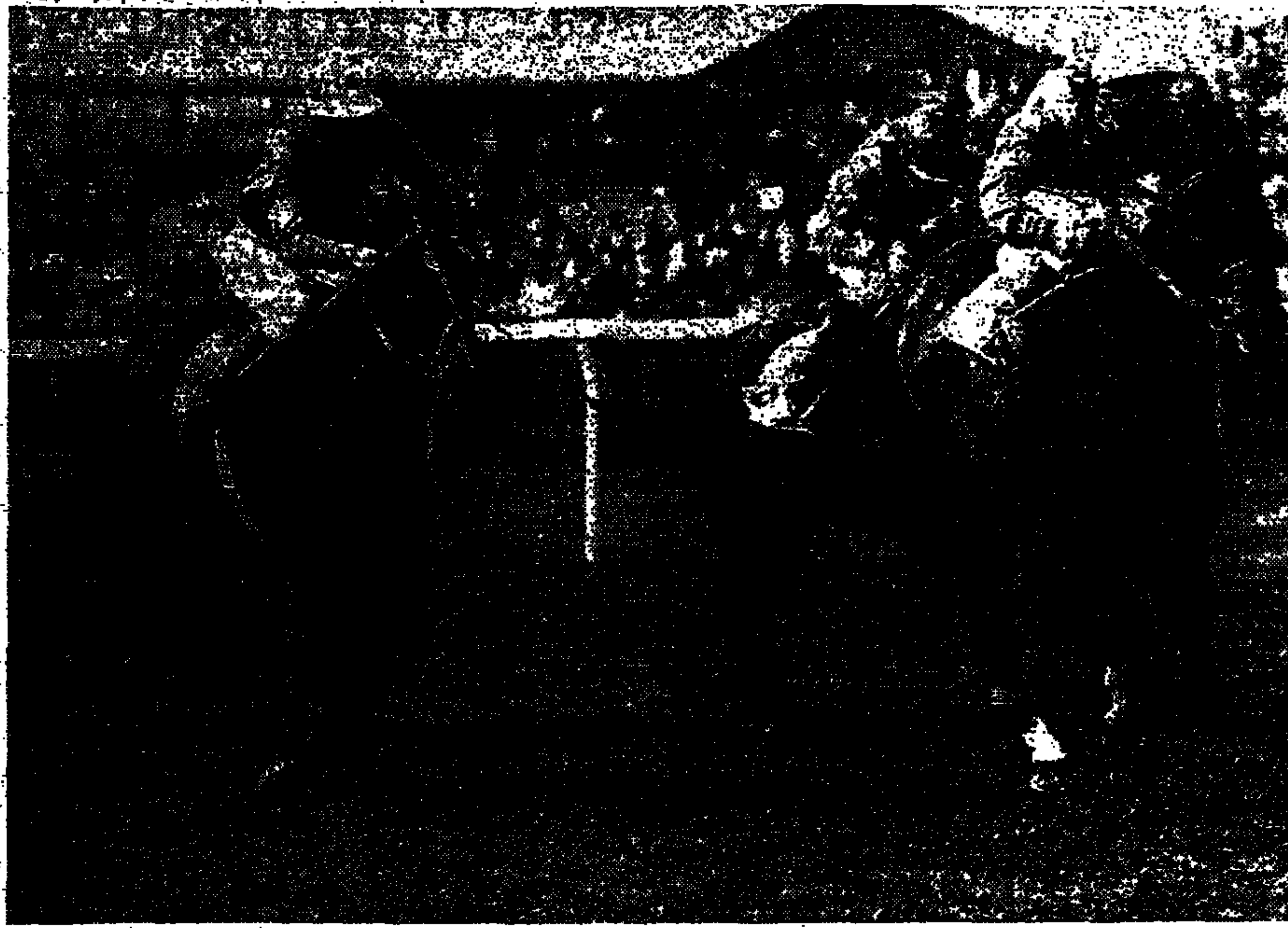
Ma Biche is a magnificent looking filly by Key to the Kingdom out of Madge. This is a family well known to English racegoers as Madge is a half sister to the Cheveley Park Stakes winner Mige. And Ma Biche's grand-dam Midget also won our top two-year-old race for fillies and finished second to Honeylight in the 1956 1,000 Guineas.

Before her sale to Shaikh Maktoum Ma Biche raced in the colours of Alec Head's wife, Ghislaine. The trainer plans to bring the filly back to England for the Coronation Stakes at Royal Ascot. "I have been lucky in England and will be coming here again. The Irish 1,000 Guineas is an alternative target but that would probably come too soon."

The Maktoum brothers of Dubai now own an incredible 238 horses and are said to have spent over £30m on yearlings alone last year. The reported £6m that Shaikh Mohammed laid out for Dunbeath also looked a realistic price after the Derby favourite had finished second, one and a half lengths behind Shearwalk in the Heathorn Stakes.

Lester Piggott is one of the great jockeys of all time. Yesterday the poker-faced maestro appeared to be on a fact-finding mission on Dunbeath. The pair were still towards the rear with three furlongs to run. By the time they reached a challenging position Swinburn had stolen first run on Shearwalk.

Having used up the colt's speed to get there, Piggott was forced to accept the situation in the last furlong. "It's encouraging for the future", the jockey said afterwards. "Dunbeath badly needed the race as he did first time out last year. I was pleased". So, too, was Henry Cecil delighted with the horse whose preparation was interrupted earlier in the spring by a sprung curb. Dunbeath is top-quoted at 6-1 for the Derby by the Tote.



Ma Biche is chased home by Royal Heroine and Habibti (fourth, stripes). The third horse, Favoridge, is out of the picture.

Swinburn had ridden an enterprising race, but Shearwalk certainly deserves full marks for courage. Despite being sired by Godswalk, Shearwalk possesses stamina well in excess of speed. This factor contributed to his defeat in some of the top two-*year-old races last season.* Michael Stoute plans to run Shearwalk in either the Lingfield Derby Trial or in the Mecca-Dante stakes en route to Epsom. "Godswalk is going to Australia as a stallion for a couple of seasons at the end of the year", said Robert Sangster, Shearwalk's owner-breeder.

Cecil has 102 two-year-olds in his yard at Warren *Place*. And it was hard not to feel some sympathy for his fellow trainers when his first runner of that age group, Rex Lane, comfortably justified favouritism in the El Capistrano Stakes. Piggot went on to complete a double on that remarkable old veteran, Popsi's Joy, in the March Handicap.

Opinion is now hardening *that Diesis is going to* win tomorrow's 2,000 Guineas after the favourite's good gallop on Wednesday. It is now impossible to beat 5-2 about Lord Howard de Walden's full brother to Kris.

Diamond Shoal to capitalize on a priceless asset

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

The Jockey Club Stakes is not only the most valuable race at Newmarket today but also by far the most fascinating. A battle between top-class four-year-olds has always been one of the jays of Flat racing. Sadly the huge financial gain derived from an early retirement to stud means that the cream tends to be skimmed more often than not these days.

In this instance, though, Time Charter, Simply Great, Diamond Shoal, Electric, Old Country and Zilos are six of those who delighted us last season still in training. The sight of them racing across the Heath promises to be every bit as absorbing as any classic.

With the benefit of a previous race and what is more an impressive winning one, Diamond Shoal looks to have a priceless advantage and he is my selection. If he is successful he will make up for the narrow defeat of his elder brother, Glint of Gold, on the corresponding occasion 12 months ago.

There was much to like about the way that Diamond Shoal won the John Porter Stakes at Newbury earlier this month. The way that he cruised to the front hlfway up the straight suggested that he had improved greatly. And he will not need to have improved that much since last season to be in a winning *position this afternoon. At Newbury*, Djiamond Shoal beat Amyndas by four lengths, and now he will be meeting that some horse, who was not beaten far by Ardross and Glint of Gold on this occasion last year, *on only 3lb worse terms.*

Diamond Shoal was beaten threequarters of a length by Electric in the Great Voltigeur Stakes at York last August; but with that race under his belt he will never have a better opportunity of getting his revenge. Electric is something of an enigma. Visitors to Goodwood in July also saw what he is capable of when he gave weight and a decisive *beating to Touching Wood in the* Gordon Stakes. However, on two other occasions he ran badly, first at Royal Ascot and then again at Doncaster. His history of back trouble makes him something of an *unreliable betting proposition.*

In terms of pure class, last year's Oaks and Champion Stakes heroine, Time Charter, is arguably the pick of the field. But in this instance her trainer, Henry Candy, will not be disappointed if she is beaten. Candy told me yesterday that while Time Charter is well in herself, she has still to shed her winter coat. In the circumstances, she has not been *given the same training preparation* that she was subjected to last spring before she finished second in the 1,000 Guineas.

This will be Simply Great's first race since she won the Mecca-Dante Stakes at York last May. The reason for that lengthy absence was a small fracture in a leg which he sustained only five days before the Derby, for which he was ante-post favourite at the time. His trainer, Henry Cecil, has been understandably cautious nursing him back to fitness and, like Time Charter, Simply Great may well need this race and more time to return to his best.

Our Newmarket Correspondent *has a sneaking feeling that last year's* Italian Derby winner, Old Country, who is trained here by Luca Cumani, will make them all go. Penalized to the hilt for that triumph in Italy, Old Country then *ran really* well in the King Edward VII Stakes at Royal Ascot when third to Open Day. However that was the last we saw of him as a three-year-old because he was sick during the second half of the season.

Last year's Coronation Cup winner Easter Sun; Henricus, who boasts the Austrian 2,000 Guineas and Derby among his triumphs; the *St Leger runner-up, Zilos, and* Mubarak of Kuwait, who won the King George V Handicap at Royal Ascot, are other runners who will help to make today's race so absorbing. Going strictly by the *form of the St Leger, Zilos* has the beating of Diamond Shoal at these weights. But as I mentioned earlier, Diamond Shoal has had a race this spring whreas Zilos has not, and that could make all the difference.

With *18* comparatively lightly-raced three-year-old fillies standing their ground overnight, the Pretty Polly Stakes looks wide open. By the Derby winer Mill Reef and out of the Oaks winner Juliette Marny, *Jolly Bay has a peerless pedigree. By* all accounts, she has been showing a lot of promise on the Beckhampton gallops.

However, without any experience of racing in public, she may not be able to beat another daughtr of *Mill* Reef, Funny Reef, on this occasion. Funny Reef is being talked of as the best filly that Fulke Johnson Houghton has had in his care since Rose Bowl. Her first effort at *Newbury 13 days ago certainly* angured well.

Meetings in jeopardy

Today's race meeting at Carlisle has been abandoned because of waterlogging and brings the total of meetings lost in the wettest April on record to 24 – 15 of them on the flat. *Today's other meetings at Newmarket* and Taunton look safe, but three of Saturday's five meetings hinge on inspections.

Ripon stewards inspect at 11 am today, Haydock at 3 pm and Worcester at 4 pm. All courses report heavy going and at Haydock the top bend has been dolled off and *the safety limit for runners reduced.* Ripon and Worcester both have water laying on the course. Today's meetings at Hereford and Hexham were also abandoned.

Newmarket

Tote double 3.5, 4.10. Treble 2.35, 3.35, 4.40

Draw no advantage

[*Television (ITV) 2.35, 3.5 and 3.35 races*]

2.0 WILBRAHAM STAKES (2-y-o fillies maidens: £2,582: 5f) (8 runners)

101 BE MY VALENTINE (A Chisholm) H Cecil 8-11 ... L Piggott 4
102 0 BOOM SHANTY (D Warrington) P Brookshaw 8-11 ... M Miller 2
106 KIRSOVA (W Gredley) C Brittain 8-11 ... T Ives 8
109 MUSICAL LOVE (Dr C Labracciosa) B Hanbury 8-11 ... B Raymond 1
110 NEWS (Mrs J de Rothschild) B Hobbs 8-11 ... G Baxter 3
112 RIZLA BLUE (N Viney) F Durr 8-11 ... G Starkey 6
113 ROSANA PARK (G Mills) E Eldin 8-11 ... M Thomas 7
115 WORLING GOLD (G Hubbard) M Ryan 8-11 ... P Robinson 5

11-10 Be My Valentine, 100-30 News, 6 Rizla Blue, 8 Worling Gold, 12 Rosana Park, Musical Love, 14 Kirsova, 25 Boom Shanty.

2.35 PRETTY POLLY STAKES (3-y-o fillies: £6,815: 1m 2f) (18)

201 440-11 FLUID MECHANICS (M Fustok) M Albina 9-2 ... A Murray 8
203 01140- MOMENT IN TIME (Mrs B Sutton) M Stoute 9-2 ... W R Swinburn 4
205 100010- PRINCESS HERHAM (J Smith) N Callaghan 9-2 ... J Mercer 12
206 142- CHALLANGING (Mrs D Brooks) B Hobbs 8-10 ... G Baxter 11
208 310- JULIA FLYTE (D Harris) G Harwood 8-10 ... G Starkey 14
209 122-0 NAVARINO BAY (A Leggat) J W Watts 8-10 ... T Ives 18
210 01-3 WHITSTAR (S Crespi) M Jarvis 8-10 ... B Raymond 6
211 0431-2 WOODCOTE BELLE (S Dorl) R Smyth 8-10 ... P Young 13
212 0002-40 CURRENT RAISER (Ld Matthews) C Brittain 8-5 ... P Robinson 5
213 043- DAME ASHFIELD (Sir P Oppenheimer) G Wragg 8-5 ... B Crossley 9
214 002- EYE DAZZLER (Miss C Alexander) W Hern 8-5 ... W Carson 7
215 6 FIELDS OF SPRING (P Mellon) I Balding 8-5 ... S Cauthen 2
216 3 FUNNY REEF (Hypokrene Establissement) R Houghton 8-5 ... J Reid 17
217 JOLLY BAY (J Morrison) J Tree 8-5 ... Pat Eddery 10
219 0- NOBLE PATIA (Gutting Stud) J Hindley 8-5 ... B Taylor 3
220 0- SARAH GILLIAN (Mrs G Kelleway) P Kelleway 8-5 ... P Waldron 1
222 VIERGE D'OR (D Wildenstein) H Cecil 8-5 ... L Piggott 16
223 00- ZEEZA (A Dragone) J Dunlop 8-5 ... B Rouse 15

7-2 Funny Reef, 4 Dame Ashfield, Vierge D'Or, 8 Zeeza, Woodcote Belle, 15-2 Eye Dazzler, Jolly Bay, 12 Challenging, 16 Moment In Time, Julia Flyte, 20 others.

FORM: Whitstar (8-11) 3rd beaten 8l to High Cannon (gave 2lb) 8 ran. Thirsk 1m 4f stks good April 15. Moment in Time (8-13) 8th beaten 10l to Johnny Nobody (gave 8lb) 12 ran. Newmarket 1m h'cap good to soft Sept 29. Princess Herham (9-2) 5th beaten 3½l to Holloway Wonder (rec 7lb) 17 ran. Leicester 7f h'cap soft Nov 1. Challenging (8-13) 2nd beaten 1½l to Silk Sari (rec 3lb) 12 ran. Chepstow 7f stks good to firm Sept 11. Julia Flyte (8-8) 5th beaten 3½l to Saving Mercy (rec 1lb) 7 ran. Newmarket 7f stks Oct 15. Woodcote Belle (8-8) 2nd beaten 2l to Silverdip (level) 8 ran. Salisbury 7f stks soft April 9. Funny Reef (8-13) 3rd beaten 1l to What A Pity (level) 11 ran. Newbury 7f maiden stks good to soft April 16. Fluid Mechanics (9-3) 2nd beaten hd-hard neck, to Pomade (rec 6lb) 7 ran. Wolverhampton 1m 1f stks soft April 18. Dame Ashfield (8-11) 3rd beaten 4½l to Sid Sailing (level) 21 ran. Newmarket 7f mdn stks good Oct 30.
SELECTION: Woodcote Belle.

3.5 BRITISH SUGAR SILVER SPOON HANDICAP (3-y-o: £8,129: 6f) (17)

301 110- FINE EDGE (C) (K Abdulla) J Tree 9-7 ... P Eddery 6
302 24111-5 PRINCE SPY (CD) (S Powell) J Sutcliffe 9-4 ... W Carson 5
303 1123-20 PRIVATE LABEL (F Lee Paper Converters) M Jarvis 9-1 ... B Raymond 14
305 33443-0 BLACK GLAZEPTA (J Marshall) A Jarvis 8-13 ... S Dawson 5 3
306 1213- COQUITO'S FRIEND (D) (A Alvarado) B Hanbury 8-13 ... P Young 13
307 3321- HERODOTE (D Wildenstein) H Cecil 8-12 ... L Piggott 4
308 01210-4 WIKI WIKI WHEELS (D) (P Savill) C Nelson 8-8 ... S Cauthen 17
309 011302- SIDAB (O Zawawi) W Musson 8-4 ... T Ives 8
310 120- BOLD MOVER (D) (J Greetham) M Stoute 8-2 ... R Lines 5 10
311 11200-0 MELTHENI (D) (Mrs R Hutchison) M H Easterby 8-1 ... M Birch 15
312 14240- CENTRUST (S Niarchos) P Walwyn 8-1 ... - 16
315 0410-03 DEPUTY HEAD (P Callard) L Holt 7-9 ... - 9
316 210400- LANDSEER (D) (K Browning) D Sasse 7-8 ... D McKay 2
317 21- MISS THAMES (D) (Mrs D Haynes) M Stoute 7-8 ... E Johnson 11
319 42202-1 RUNZ (D) (Y Nasib) N Callaghan 7-7 ... W Ryan 7 12
320 000-4 NORTHERN TRIAL (C Shack) P Kelleway 7-7 ... B Crossley 1
321 0104-01 BEST BIDDER (D) (K Fischer) R Hollinshead 7-7 ... N Carlisle 3 7

11-4 Herodote, 4 Prince Spy, 11-2 Fine Edge, Miss Thames, 7 Private Label, 10 Wiki Wiki Wheels, Coquito's Friend, 12 Sidab, 14 Bold Mover, Runz, 20 others.

FORM: Fine Edge (8-11) th beaten 4½l to Safleri (level) 5 ran. Newbury 6f stks good Sep 18. Prince Spy (8-10) 3rd beaten 5l to Sweet Monday (gave 13 lb) 9 ran. Kempton 6f stks soft Apr 4. Private Label (8-2) 6th beaten over 6l to Fearless Lad (gave 19 lb) 8 ran. Haydock 5f stks soft Apr 18. Wiki Wheels (9-7) 4th beaten 3l to Dry Land (rec 17 lb) with Deputy Head (rec 8 lb) 3rd beaten ¾l 8 ran. Newbury 5f h'cap soft Apr 15. Runz (8-7) won 3l from Return Match (gave 7 lb) 8 ran. Hamilton 6f mdn stks good to soft Apr 12. Best Bidder (7-4) won sh hd from Ardrox Lad (gave 26 lb) 6 ran. Haydock 6f h'cap soft Apr 13 Coquito's Friend (8-7) 3rd beaten 2½l sh hd to Prince Spy (rec 11 lb) with Ardrox Lad (rec 7 lb) 2nd beats 2½l 16 ran. Newmarket 6f h'cap good to soft Oct 14. *Herodote (9-0) won hd from Dabdoub (level) 15 ran.* Leicester 7f mdn stks good to soft Oct 19. Sidab (8-7) 2nd beaten 5l to Broken Habit (rec 9 lb) 14 ran. Sandown 5f h'cap soft Oct 20. Miss Thames (8-11) won hd from Fleet Review (level) 15 ran. Yarmouth 6f mdn stks good June 29.
SELECTION: Fine Edge.

3.35 JOCKEY CLUB STAKES (Group III: £18,786: 1m 4f) (11)

401 /11030- EASTER SUN (CD) (Lady Beaverbrook) M Jarvis 6-8-12 ... B Raymond 1
403 13/312- *OLD COUNTRY (D) (Mrs O Abegg) L Cumani 4-8-12* ... S Cauthen 9
404 02223-1 DIAMOND SHOAL (D) (P Mellon) I Balding 4-8-10 ... P Eddery 6
405 130116- ELECTRIC (D) (R Clifford-Turner) M Stoute 4-8-10 ... W R Swinburn 3
406 10/41- SIMPLY GREAT (C) (D Wildenstein) H Cecil 4-8-10 ... L Piggott 11
407 121211- TIME CHARTER (CD) (R Barnett) H Candy 4-8-9 ... W Newnes 7
409 21300-3 AMYNDAS (CD) (Mrs H Cambanis) B Hobbs 5-8-7 ... A Murray 2
411 24414- FUTURE SPA (S Threadwell) C Brittain 4-8-7 ... P Robinson 10
412 4-2 HENRICUS (Count C Sellera) J Hindley 4-8-7 ... B Taylor 5
414 211010- *MUBARAK OF KUWAIT (D) (Sheik Fahad) G Harwood 4-8-7* ... G Starkey 4
415 003320- ZILOS (B) (Mrs H Cambanis) B Hobbs 4-8-7 ... G Baxter 8

15-8 Time Charter, 5-2 Simply Great, 9-2 Diamond Shoal, 6 Electric, 12 Amyndas, 14 Zilos, 16 Old Country, Mubarak Of Kuwait, 20 others.

FORM: Easter Sun (8-8) 8th beaten 7-1 to Real Shadai (rec 17 lb) 12 ran. Deauville 1m 5f stks good Aug 28. *Diamond Shoal* (8-8) won 3l from Little Wolf (gave 6lb) with Amyndas (level) 3rd beaten 4l 8 ran. Newbury 1m 4f stks good to soft Apr 15. Old Country (9-2) 3rd beaten 1½l to Open Day (rec 10 lb) 11 ran, Ascot 1m 4f stks good to firm June 17. Electric (9-0) not in first to Touching Wood (level) 15 ran. Doncaster 1m 6f 127 yd stks firm Sep 11. Simply Great (9-0) won 2½l from Palace Gold (level) 6 ran, York 1m 2f 110 yd stks good to firm Ma 12. Time Charter (8-7) won 7l from Prima Voce (gave 3lb) 14 ran. Newmarket 1m 2f stks good Oct 16. Mubarak Of Kuwait (8-7) not in first 9 to Mountain Lodge (rec 11 lb) 28 ran. Newmarket 2m 2f h'cap good Oct 16. Zilos (8-11) 7th beaten 9l to Denel (level) 1 ran. Longchamp 1m 7f 110 yd stks heavy Oct 24.
SELECTION: Time Charter.

4.10 CHEVINGTON STAKES (*2-y-o: £2,452: 5f*) (6)

501 11 OUR DYNASTY (D) (W Hobson) M Lambert 9-8 ... P Eddery 5
503 11 AFRICAN ABANDON (CD) (P Mills) C Brittain 9-5 ... G Baxter 4
504 1 NOVELLO (CD) (R Bott Wigmore) J Winter 9-5 ... B Taylor 3
506 01 SOLVA (D) (D Garfield) Mrs C Reavey 8-13 ... T Rogers 1
507 8 MARK'S CHOICE (Miss J Collins) P Felden 8-11 ... S Cauthen 6
508 2 REESH (H H Y and Ahmed) W O'Gorman 8-11 ... T Ives 2

7-4 Our Dynasty, 11-4 African Abandon, 7-2 Novello, 6 Reesh, 20 Solva, 50 Mark's Choice.

4.40 BURWELL HANDICAP (3-y-o: £4,207: 1m) (15)

601 30020-0 SHARP SEA (Mrs S Du Buisson) B Hobbs 9-7 ... G Baxter 1
602 14-2 MANDELSTAM (C) (C St George) H Cecil 9-5 ... L Piggott 12
604 03013- AXKERNISH (D) (E Ryan) J Tree 9-3 ... P Eddery 6
606 21420-4 ARTIST'S REEL (S Niarchos) P Walwyn 8-13 ... J Mercer 4
607 00-0 ROYAL BRIGADIER (G Moses) G Balding 8-13 ... J Matthias 11
608 3001-1 BLACK FALCON (F Salman) P Cole 8-11 ... - 8
610 2122- SEDRA (M Alqazami) J Dunlop 8-7 ... - 14
611 1- JUNGLE ROMEO (Sir G White) M Stoute 8-7 ... - 15
612 0300-40 MAJOR ANTHONY (Duripane UK) J Bosley 8-5 ... - 5
615 40-1 HARD KINGDOM (E Moller) G Wragg 8-3 ... J Reid 10
616 31- KEYBOARD (Ld Derby) G Pritchard-Gordon 8-3 ... W Carson 9
617 03040-1 GALETZKY (Mrs G Maloney) C Brittain 7-11 ... P Robinson 7
618 211- ROMAN BEACH (R Canham) W Musson 7-10 ... - 13
619 040-2 SUGAR LOCH (R McAlpine) J Hindley 7-8 ... M Hills 5 2
621 000- BALLAGARROW GIRL (P White) R Hollinshead 7-7 ... W Ryan 7 3

2 Mandelstam, 3 Galetzky, 9-2 Jungle Romeo, 6 Sedra, 10 Hard Kingdom, 14 Axkernish, 16 Roman Beach, 20 others.

5.10 NEWMARKET CHALLENGE WHIP (3-y-o: 1m) (3)

701 240- DALMANE (J Hambro) P Burgoyne 9-0 ... D Dinsley 3
702 4- FATIH (H Al-Maktoum) Thomson Jones 9-0 ... P Cook 2
704 0- GOLDWATER (Sir K Butt) B Hobbs 9-0 ... G Baxter 1

4-6 Fatih, 15-8 Goldwater, 10 Dalmane.

Newmarket selections

By Michael Phillips

2.0 Be My Valentine. 2.35 Funny Reef. 3.05 Prince Spy. 3.35 Diamond Shoal. 4.10 Our Dynasty. 4.40 Hard Kingdom. 5.10 Fitih.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

2.0 Be My Valentine. 2.35 Fluid Mechanics 3.05 Miss Thames. 3.35 Simply Great. 4.10 African Abandon. 4.40 Hard Kingdom. 5.10 Fatih.

Newmarket results

Going: Good.

2.0 (2.07) HASTINGS STAKES (3-y-o: maidens: £4,203: 1m)
SOCRATIC, ch c, by Exclusive Native – La Jalouse (K Abdulla) 9-0 ... J Mercer (13-2) 1
Millfontaine, b c, by Mill Reef – Mortefontaine (S Niarchos), 9-0 ... G Starkey (10-1) 2
High Fandango, by Gay Fandango – Miss Africa (F McClendon) 9-0 ... S Cauthen (25-1) 3
Also ran: 6 fav Danseur de Corde (6th), 13-2 Silk Sash, 7 Accused (4th), 9 The Minister, 20 Lucien Lasage, Princess Zita, Sagar, 25 Faylasouf, It's For You, Rich Lass, Sea *Rhythm, 33 Barney Miller, Gary Shaw, Mitawi* (5th), Powersaver Lad, Roysia Boy, Sped of Sound, Trusty Troubadour, 50 American Minstrel, Chummy's Boy, Erostin Star, Flying Palace, Gardeners Arms, Help, Royal Hollow, Revelstoke. 29 ran. NR: Liena Louise.
TOTE: Win: £5.40. Places: £1.80, £3.70, £6.50. DF: £76.10. CSF: £67.16. F Durr at Newmarket. 2l, 3l. 1min 42.32sec.

2.35 (2.41) HEATHORN STAKES (3-y-o: colts: £8,038: 1m 2f)
SHEARWALK, gr c, by godswalk – Sairshea (R Sangster) 9-2 ... W R Swinburn (7-1) 1
Dunbeath, b c, by Grey Dawn II – Priceless Fame (Sheikh Mohammed), 9-2 ... L Piggott (8-4 fav) 2
Zoffany, b c, by Our Native – Grey Dawn Girl (A Speelman), 9-2 ... G Starkey (4-1) 3
Also ran: 9-2 Morcon, 11 Gamon, 14 Shy Rambler, 25 Society Boy (4th), 33 Hasty Flirt, Serhead, Tivian (6th), 100 Ring of Greatness, 200 Soldier Ant (5th). 12 ran.
TOTE: Win: £7.80. Places: £1.50, £2.30, £1.10. DF: £8.30. CSF: £20.11. M Stoute at Newmarket. 1l, 1½l. 2min 09.89sec.

3.15 (3.24) 1,000 GUINEAS STAKES (3-y-o: fillies: Group I: £71,472: 1m)
MA BICHE, br f, by KEY to The Kingdom – Madge (Maktoum Al Maktoum) 9-0 ... F Head (5-2 fav) 1
Royal Heroine, br f, by Lyphear – My Sierra Leone (R Sangster), 9-0 ... W R Swinburn (10-1) 2
Favoridge, b f, by Riva Ridge – Favoletta (E Moller), 9-0 ... P Eddery (7-2) 3
Also ran: 10 Habibti (4th), 11 Sid Sailing, 12 Shore Line, 16 Annie Edge (6th), 20 Flamenco, 25 Myra's Best, 40 Henry's Secret, 50 Octavia Girl, 66 Crime of Passion, La Grigia, Solimile, 100 Dancing Meg, Indian Lady, Rare Robert (5th), 500 Acoras Prediction, 18 ran.
TOTE: Win: £1.70. Places: £1.80, £3.20, £1.60. DF: £27.70. CSF: £22.90. Mrs C Head in France. 1½l, hd. 1min 41.71sec.

3.45 (3.53) EL CAPISTRANO STAKES (2-y-o: maidens: £2,834: 5f)
REX LAKE, b c, by Marshua's Dancer – Rularina (Mrs M Burrell) 9-0 ... L Piggott (13-8 fav) 1
Marevala, ch c, by Ahonoora – Sea Swallow (J Fisher) 9-0 ... P Robinson (50-1) 2
Knoxville, b c, by Pitskelly – Cariole (A Shead) 9-0 ... S Cauthen (8-1) 3
Also ran: 4 Tuusitala (5th), 6 All Agreed (4th), 10 Kiev, 20 Caedmon, May Be This Time, Uncle Oliver, 25 Sam's Sailor (6th), 33 Battle Bay, Prince of Fashion, 50 Dunant. 13 ran.
TOTE: Win: £3.30. Places: £1.40, £7.00, £2.30. DF: £153.40. CSF: £85.92. H Cecil at Newmarket. 1½l, 2½l. 1min 02.58sec.

4.15 (4.20) BRETBY HANDICAP (£4,012: 6f)
MASTER CAWSTON, ch c, by Cawstons Clown – Teresa Way (G Wragg) 4-8-4 ... P Eddery (14-1) 1
Azaam, b h, by Mummy's Pet – Emporer Star (T Mohan) 5-7-12 ... W Carson (12-1) 2
Doc Marten, b h, by Hotfoot – Rockney (R Griggs & Co) 5-9-0 ... A Murray (25-1) 3
Also ran: 7-2 fav Precis, 6 Vorvados, 13-2 Avonmore Wind (5th), 7 Kathred, 8 Old Dominion, 16 Mummy's Pleasure, 25 Gabitat, Hay Habit, 33 Mean Francine, Northorpe (6th), Belatina (4th). 14 ran.
TOTE: Win: £21.00. Places: £5.40, £3.80, £3.50. DF: £59.40. CSF: £145.41. Tricast: £3,869.67. G Wragg at Newmarket. 1l, 1l. 1min 15.58sec.

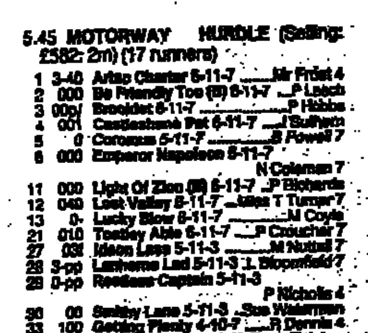
4.50 (4.55) MARCH HANDICAP (£3,889: 2m)
POPSI'S JOY, b g, by Hill Clown – Popsi's Pride (W M Lawson) 8-6-7 ... L Piggott (11-4 fav) 1
Red Field, b h, by Tudor Rhythm – Glebe (J Orbell) 5-7-8 ... E Johnson (9-1) 2
Donegal Prince, b g, by Prince de Galles – Sevina Rose (J McGonegle), 7-9-3 ... P Young (16-1) 3
Also ran: 9-2 Sandalay (6th), 5 Man of Spirit, 8 Muslab (4th), 10 Big Ed, 14 Tidworth Tatoo, 16 Major Setback (5th), 25 Channing Girl, Rhonestone Cowboy. 11 ran.
TOTE: Win: £3.40. Places: £1.40, £2.00, £8.40. DF: £5.40. CSF: £25.57. Tricast: £297.80. M Hayes at Epsom. 1½l, 3l. 3min 33.76sec.

TOTE DOUBLE: Ma Biche, Master Cawston, £87.50. TREBLE: Shearwalk, Rex Lake, Popsi's Joy, £29.90. JACKPOT: Not won.

● The Jockey Club have bent their *rules preventing* the division of sponsored races, so that the National Hunt flat race at Cheltenham next Wednesday can be split. The Amateur Riders Association, the sponsors of the race, made the request *after approaches from* a number of trainers, keen to run their young horses. Five trainers have agreed to reimburse the association for the £500 that the extra race will cost.

Taunton

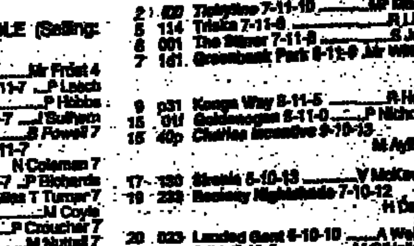
5.45 MOTORWAY HURDLE (Selling: £582: 2m) (17 runners)



1 3-40 Artao Charter 6-11-7 ... Mr Frost 4
2 000 Be Friendly Too (B) 6-11-7 ... P Leach
3 00p/ Brookdet 6-11-7 ... P Hobbs
4 001 Castleshane Pat 6-11-7 ... J Suthern
5 0 Coronam 5-11-7 ... B Powell 7
6 000 Emperor Napoleon 6-11-7 ... N Coleman 7
11 000 Light Of Zion (B) 6-11-7 ... P Richards
12 040 Lost Valley 6-11-7 ... Miss T Turner 7
13 0- Lucky Blow 6-11-7 ... M Coyle
21 010 Toatley Able 6-11-7 ... P Croucher 7
27 03! Ideas Lass 5-11-3 ... M Nuttall 7
28 3-pp Lanherne Lad 5-11-3 ... L Bloomfield 7
29 0-pp Restless Captain 5-11-3 ... P Nicholls 4
30 00 Smiley Lane 5-11-3 ... Sue Waterman
33 100 Getting Plenty 4-10-7 ... R Dennis 4
37 400 March Fandango 4-10-7 ... S Jobar
40 p Red Garland 4-10-7 ... C Bourne 7

7-2 Castleshane Pat, 4 Toatley Able, 5 Getting Plenty, 6 March Fandango.

6.15 PETER BLACKBURN CHASE (Novice handicap: £1,484: 2m 3f) (16)



2 000 Tistgline 7-11-10 ... Mr Mitchell
5 114 Triska 7-11-8 ... R Linley
6 001 The Stirrer 7-11-8 ... S Jobar
7 1d1 Greenbank Park 8-11-8 ... Mr Williams 4
9 p31 Koga Way 8-11-5 ... R Hoare
15 0f/ Goldenogen 8-11-0 ... P Nicholls 4
15 40p Chatles Incentive 9-10-13 ... M Ayliffe 4
17 130 Steele 6-10-13 ... V McKevitt 4
19 230 Romany Nightshade 7-10-12 ... H Davies
20 023 Landed Gent 8-10-10 ... A Webber
21 0p0 Stilch 7-10-8 ... M O'Halloran
25 000 Doonament 7-10-8 ... P Hobbs
26 p11 Master Nibble 8-10-8 (6 ex) ... A Webb
28 p-p4 Jacko Bay 8-10-7 ... L Bloomfield 7
29 0-0p Fox Bridge 8-10-7 ... -
31 p0 Wissim (B) 10-10-4 ... Susan Wilson 7

3 Greenbank Park, 100-30 Romany Nightshade, 5 Master Nibble, 11-2 Triska.

6.45 HUMBERTS HURDLE (Handicap: £1,925: 2m 3f) (24)

5 010 Wild Geese 5-11-7 ... Jackie Thorne 4
6 014 Tudor Road 8-11-6 ... R Linley
8 240 The Azadatan 5-11-3 ... Steve Knight
10 419 Brooks Law 8-11-2 ... L Bloomfield 7
11 000 Cornish Cousin 5-11-2 ... P Leach
12 0-0f Stone Mist 7-11-1 ... C Mann 4
14 u0f North Yard 7-11-0 ... P Hobbs
19 110 Brock Hill 7-10-12 ... Mr M Low 4
20 002 Prosett 5-10-11 ... S Keightley
21 410 Beau Ranger 5-10-10 ... P Scudamore
26 0uf James Seymour 7-10-8 ... V McKevitt 4
27 020 Bedroom Girl 5-10-8 ... Mr Frost 4
31 114- Van Hagen 7-10-6 ... W Smith
34 003 Under-Rated (B) 5-10-4 ... P Richards
36 0p2 Party Miss 8-10-4 ... H Davies
38 000 Penny Dolt 5-10-2 ... M O'Halloran
39 100 Wells O'Weasle 7-10-1 ... B Powell 7
45 020 Crowning Moment 8-10-0 ... K Mooney
46 000 Skat 6-10-0 ... R Dennis 4
47 40p Achilles 7-10-0 ... A Webber
48 000 Tongorolan 8-10-0 ... S Shilston
49 000 Luxariate 8-10-0 ... -
52 003 Lavenda Lee 5-10-0 ... N Coleman 7
53 020 Pickled Tink 8-10-0 ... -

4 Brock Hill, 5 Tudor Road, 6 Beau Ranger, Van Hagen.

7.15 WEDMORE CHASE (Handicap: £1,762: 3m 1f) (16)

4 14u Mr Oryx 10-11-7 ... R Crank
5 pp0 Spider Man 12-11-8 ... -
10 0p3 Double Crossing 10-11-3 ... A Webb
11 012 Igloo Fire 10-11-1 ... P Nicholls 4
15 p4-p Godfrey Secundus 13-10-12 ... R Hoare
19 312 Button Boy (B) 10-10-9 ... M Richards 4
20 0f/ Gay Tab (B) 10-10-9 ... Mr Brooks 7
22 300 General Rock 8-10-6 ... P Scudamore
24 022 Prosper You Can 8-10-6 ... K Mooney
25 pp0 Castrall 10-10-5 ... -
26 104 Seaspring 8-10-5 ... -
28 00-0 Poachers Royale 8-10-2 ... Mr Frost 4
31 004 Santoos 10-10-0 ... G Davies
32 434 Alba La 10-10-0 ... Mr Bryan 4
34 000 Another Pleser 8-10-0 ... S May
36 ppp Double Fox 8-10-0 ... -

5-2 Prosper You Can, 7-2 Button Boy, 4 Igloo Fire, 6 Double Crossing.

7.45 MELODY MAN HURDLE (£1,245: 2m) (15)

2 0p-0 Every Extra 9-11-11 ... Mr Williams 4
5 100 Jubilee Medal 6-11-11 ... S Smith Eccles
14 212 Carlitax 5-11-10 ... P Croucher 7
15 202 Carved Opal 5-11-10 ... -
18 0-0p Starridge Valley 6-11-10 ... B Powell 7
20 0-0p Gold Stick 13-11-6 ... Mr Pearn
24 101 Hal's Joy 4-11-3 ... P Leach
26 pp0 Bold Deception 7-11-1 ... S Jobar
27 300 Brave Intention 6-11-1 ... A Madgwick 4
29 0-p0 Mary Felicity 6-11-1 ... L Bloomfield
30 0p-0 Pursebearer 7-11-1 ... P Scudamore
31 000 Quamlock Manger 9-11-1 ... P Richards
34 p0 Lime Leo 5-11-0 ... C Brown
35 4p0 Warfly 5-11-0 ... T Muggeridge 4
37 310 Thornton 4-10-12 ... S May

9-4 Hal's Joy, 3 Carved Opal, 4 Carlitax, 5 Jubilee Medal.

8.15 MARTOCK HURDLE (4-Y-O novices: £768: 2m) (17)

2 010 Kevin Evans 11-3 ... B De Haan
4 441 Romsal 11-3 ... Steve Knight
8 p0 Bary Cleeve 10-7 ... M Ayliffe 4
9 Colonel Curtis 10-7 ... C Brown
12 40 Gap 10-7 ... H Davies
14 04 Henry Lancaster 10-7 ... J Hurst 7
16 Keep Sauntering 10-7 ... Miss T Turner 7
18 034 Majestic Cue 10-7 ... A Madgwick 4
23 03f Porto Louise 10-7 ... M Coyle
24 0 Private World 10-7 ... -
26 032 Retsel 10-7 ... P Scudamore
27 232 Rostra 10-7 ... A Webber
29 Small Time 10-7 ... C Gray 4
30 00 Sock Jinks 10-7 ... Christine Young 7
31 003 Spare Wheel 10-7 ... G Davies
32 00 Stars And Stripes 10-7 ... Mr J Brost 4
33 p0 Ted's Choice 10-7 ... P Croucher 7

2 Kevin Evans, 4 Gap, 5 Rostra, 6 Romsal.

TAUNTON SELECTIONS: 5.45 March Fandango. 6.15 Koga Way. 6.45 Beau Ranger. 7.15 Seaspring. 7.45 Hal's Joy. 8.15 Gap.

STATE OF GOING: Newmarket: good. Taunton: soft. Tomorrow: Haydock: heavy. Kempton: heavy. Ripon: heavy. Worcester: heavy.

GOLF

When Ballesteros built a record 64 out of nothing

From Mitchell Platts, Florence

Severiano Ballesteros turned a round *which* promised *little* after eight unproductive holes into a record-breaking 64, eight under par, to take command in the first round of the £60,000 Italian Open on the Ugolino course here yesterday.

He leads by three strokes from Ian Mosey, Gordon Brand jnr, Bernhard Langer, Juan Anglada and Wayne Westner. The defending champion, Mark James, is among a group on 68 and Sandy Lyle, winner in Madrid last week, took 69. Greg Norman finished with a 75.

Ballesteros's intention was to make immediate progress since he was starting his round on this picturesque course at the tenth. The inward nine starts with three par fours, all of which the Spaniard could drive if he chose to unleash one of his specials, and with the sixteenth also in range and two par fives, an in-form Ballesteros could *be fully expected to threaten the 30* barrier.

True to form in this game, it did not quite work out that way. Ballesteros found the green at the eleventh (283 yards) with a three-wood but after that he was strangely subdued and a little out of touch. He studied his second to the fifteenth (519 yards) for several minutes before striking a fairway wood out to the right and into a deep bunker.

He took five and Bernard Gallacher, playing alongside him, managed to make a four with little difficulty. At the sixteenth (308 yards) Ballesteros employed his power to get to within four feet of the green. The pitch, however, was *out of character, struck with* a strange absence of authority and with the ball coming to rest 10 feet short of the hole, and so he missed the clear chance of a birdie.

He did manage a four at the long eighteenth but, having covered his opening nine holes in 34, it seemed time to leave him alone and take notice of how Ian Mosey and Sam Torrance were continuing after having played the same stretch in 31 and 32 respectively.

Yet it was to be a tale of two halves for Ballesteros. The touch which had eluded him suddenly returned and he managed to play the more difficult front half of the course in *30 strokes. He owed much* to his putter, for he holed five times from more than 10 feet as he brought his tally of birdies for the round to eight.

Ballesteros set another course record, yet many will play better this week without handing in a good score. The art of the game, however, is not how you play but how low you score. Ballesteros is a true champion because he can make something out of nothing.

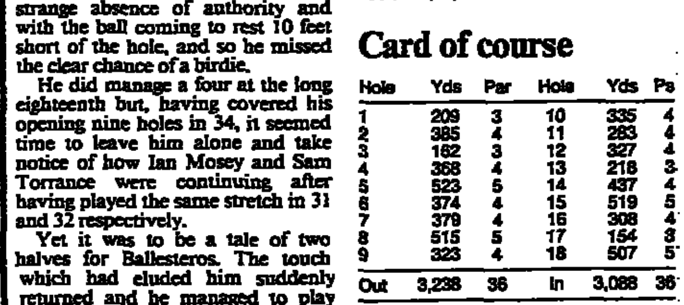
He also has an extra incentive this week because the Italian Open remains one of the two Continental championships he has not won. The other is the Portuguese and a victory here would benefit the Portuguese since Ballesteros would consider playing in the Open in November.

Mosey can be forgiven for thinking that he should have scored lower since he managed nine birdies and he *did* not have to hole a putt of more than six feet, which shows the accuracy of his play. Torrance fell away because he needed three putts at each of the last two greens.

Fortune shone on Gordon Brand jnr. He holed from 40 feet for a birdie at the first and he chipped in for another at the sixth. He also managed to hole a 78-yard wedge shot for an eagle two at the twelfth in his 67.

FIRST ROUND (GB unless stated): 64: S Ballesteros (Sp); 67: G Brand jnr, I Mosey, J Anglada (Sp), B Langer (WG), W Westner (SA); 68: S Martin, J Bland (SA), T Horton, D Lovato (It), M James; 69: S Lyle, M Piñero (Sp), D A Russell, S Torrance, W Humphreys, V Somers (Aus), P Dahlberg (Swe), K Brown, J Rivero (Sp), M King; 70: J Anderson (Can), P Curry, D Faherty, A Stubbs, J Cañizares (Sp), H Baiocchi (SA).

Card of course



Hole	Yds	Par	Hole	Yds	Par
1	209	3	10	335	4
2	385	4	11	283	4
3	182	3	12	327	4
4	368	4	13	218	3
5	523	5	14	437	4
6	374	4	15	519	5
7	379	4	16	308	4
8	515	5	17	154	3
9	323	4	18	507	5
Out	3,238	36	In	3,088	36

TABLE TENNIS

China hold on team titles looks secure

Tokyo (Reuter) – China made a predictably powerful start when they opened their defence of the team titles at the thirty-seventh world championships here yesterday. The Chinese men trounced the United States 5-0 and beat the dogged West Germans by the same margin. The women beat the Netherlands and France, both 3-0.

China, led by the world champion Guo Yuehua, play Sweden today in what promises to be one of the most fascinating encounters of the tournament. The Swedes had their problems beating the United States and if this is any indication of form they will also fall to China. The biggest upset of the day was the defeat of the European champion Michael Appelgren, seeded No 4. He was beaten 22-20, 22-20 by Ricky Seemiller, an unseeded American. "It was unbelievable. The best win of my life," Seemiller said afterwards.

Jan-Ove Waldner, aged 17, was Sweden's best player. He looked very impressive in defeating Eric Boggan. Waldner, who started playing table tennis at the age of three, is a calm and calculating player whose service has been *transformed since a visit to Peking* last year. Some experts were already imagining him in the men's singles finals against Guo, who at 27 may be slightly past his peak. Guo, a physical education teacher, can still *move around at remarkable speed*, however, and he changes his service from low-level to a high-thrown ball with baffling skill.

Guo did not take part in the match against the United States but played twice against the West Germans, beating Georg Boehm 21-15, 21-17 and then being taken to three sets by Ralf Wosik before winning 13-21, 21-11, 21-17. China took all seven titles at the last championships in Yugoslavia two years ago and on current form could repeat the performance.

MEN: Category one (Group B): England bt Italy 5-0 (J Hilton bt G Bisi 21-18, 18-21, 21-15; D Douglas bt S Pero 21-8, 21-11; C Prean bt M Costantini 21-14, 21-17; Douglas bt Bisi 21-14, 21-17; Hilton bt Costantini 18-21, 21-18, 21-7. England bt Poland 5-3 (C Prean bt S Dryszel 21-13, 20-22, 21-14; J Hilton lost to L Kucharski 16-21, 22-24; D Douglas lost to A Grubba 20-22, 21-4, 18-21; Prean bt Kucharski 21-10, 20-22, 21-13; Douglas lost to Dryszel 10-21, 7-21; Hilton beat Grubba 18-21, 21-11, 21-16; Douglas bt Kucharski 21-14, 21-16; Prean bt Grubba 21-17, 18-21, 21-12). Category two (Group D): India bt Wales 5-2 (Manmeet Singh bt N Thomas 21-10, 21-18; Marift Dua lost to A Griffiths 18-21, 21-11, 18-21; C Venugopal bt M Thomas 21-14, 16-21, 21-8; Singh bt Griffiths 28-26, 12-21, 22-20; Venugopal bt N Thomas 21-19, 21-19; Dua lost to M thomas 21-10, 16-21, 15-21; Venugopal bt Griffiths 21-19, 21-18). Hongkong bt Scotland 5-1 (Chan Kong Wah bt R Yule 18-21, 21-10, 21-12; Yong Iu Yeng lost to D Hannah 17-21, 21-23; Chiu Man Kuen bt K Rodger 21-12, 21-9; Chan bt Hannah 21-12, 21-15; Chiu bt Yule 21-14, 21-12; Yong bt Rodger 26-24, 21-23, 21-10). Hongkong bt Wales 5-0 (Yong Iu Veng bt M Thomas 21-8, 21-14; Chan Kong Wah bt A Griffiths 21-3, 21-7; Chiu Man Kuen bt N Thomas 21-14, 21-11; Chan bt M Thomas 21-7, 21-12; Yong bt N Thomas 21-10, 21-10). Australia bt Scotland 5-1.

WOMEN: Category One (Group B): England bt Romania 3-1 (K Witt lost to M Albow 21-17, 10-21, 15-21; L Bellinger bt O Nemes 21-19, 18-21, 21-10; L Bellinger and J Bellinger bt Albow and Nemes 21-18, 12-21, 21-17; Witt bt Nemes 21-17, 20-22, 21-18). India bt Ireland 3-1 (Indu Puri bt M Sheehan 21-12, 21-14; Snigdha Mehta lost to A Leonard 15-21, 21-19, 18-21; Indu and Shailay a Salokhe bt Sheehan and Leonard 21-17, 17-21, 21-18; Indu bt Leonard 21-12, 21-19). England bt Finland 3-1 (K Witt lost to S Grefberg 22-24, 15-21; L Bellinger bt E Malmberg 21-18, 21-9; J Bellinger and L Bellinger bt Grefberg and Malmberg 17-21, 25-23, 21-12; L Bellinger bt Grefberg 21-23, 21-14. Category Two (Group D): Ireland bt Australia 3-1 (A Leonard bt D Millikan 23-21, 21-17; M Sheehan lost to N Bisiack and S McLintock 21-12, 18-21, 21-13; Leonard bt Bisiack 21-11, 21-13. Category Three (Group F): Scotland 3, Thailand 1 (E Fores lost to Loysawai Patcharin 16-21, 21-13, 19-21; C Dalrymple bt Ladda K, 21-19, 21-14; Fores and Dalrymple bt Loysawai and Ladda 21-19, 20-22, 21-18, Dalrymple bt Loysawai 23-21, 25-23.

IN BRIEF

IOC will reconsider drug rules

Lausanne (AP) – The International Olympic Committee (IOC) will study its drug-testing requirements after the Los Angeles Olympic Games organizing committee's refusal to test athletes for caffeine and testosterone at the 1984 games. The IOC's medical committee have taken the Los Angeles decision back for study, and may change their policy. The Los Angeles group has said it will not make the tests unless it receives conclusive scietific evidence that they are valid.

Motor Sport: Jaguar, once the dominant name in world motor racing, return to racing in Britain this weekend at Donington Park. It is 20 years since their last involvement in motor sport, and they are looking for victory in the third round of the European touring championship decided over 160 laps of the Donington circuit. Jaguar have entered two XJS coupes, and Tom Walkinshaw and Chuck Nicholson share one drive in the four-hour race. The other car is in the hands of John Fitzpatrick and *Enzo Calderari.*

● Barry Sheene and Kenny Roberts will be competing for a £20,000 prize when they lead their teams in the first round of the Marlboro Transatlantic Trophy at Oulton Park tomorrow. The money will be awarded if a rider can win all six of the match races between Britain and United States.

BOXING: Leroy Haley will defend the World Boxing Council (WBC) super-lightweight championship against his fellow American, Bruce Curry, in Las Vegas on May 18. The bout will be held two days before Las Vegas stages the programme of two heavyweight championship bouts, with the WBC champion, Larry Holmes against Tim Witherspoon, and his World Boxing Association counterpart, Michael Dokes, against Mike Weaver.

YACHTING

Cudmore leaves cup squad

By John Nicholls

Harold Cudmore, the Irish sailor who was one of the first men to be retained by the Victory Syndicate, has left the squad now preparing for its challenge for the America's Cup in September. Peter de Savary, chairman of the syndicate, explained that he and Cudmore had opposing views as to the strategy requied by the challenge during the next few months and that his views prevailed.

Cudmore has always appeared to be a key man among the syndicate's sailing executives and his departure is the first public indication of any differences within the camp. If he and Mr de Savary have serious differences it is obviously better for them to part company now rather than on the eve of the first race, as happened with John Oakley and the Lionheart syndicate in 1980.

The sailing executive group, which comprises Phil Crebbin, Lawrie Smith, Rodney Pattisson and Peter Bateman (coach), has now been joined by Chris Law. His designated role is mainsheet *trimmer, an important post but not* one that one would have thought tempting to one of Britain's most skilful helmsmen.

Law is an intelligent and aggressive sailor with wide experience in dinghies, racing keelboats and offshore yachts. His known ambition has been to represent Britain in the Soling class in next year's Olympic Games. Presumably he feels the loss of a season's sailing can be allowed for in his preparations.

One of two new men have joined the crew squad from which the eventual challenging crew will be selected; otherwise the personnel are those who committed themselves with the launching of the first Victory in 1982, Victory '83, the new boat built last month, has now been fitted out at Newport, Rhode Island.

A team with an inimitable style

Prosser, the power behind the Pontypool machine

"I had to come to see for myself," the faithful lady Coventry supporter said. "I had seen the place on television, it looked such a splendid park." "Well," my neighbour whispered, "she wouldn't travel all that way expecting to see some rugby here, would she?"

It is a kind of jibe, good-humoured mostly, which the Pontypool supporters are accustomed to hearing of their team. They are now so immune that they are quite fond of telling such stories against themselves. If the ball reaches the stand-off half they reckon that a passing movement is deemed to have taken place, and if the ball goes any farther they would have to reconsider whether to renew their season tickets or not. Such is their respect for local tradition.



Ray Prosser (left) and a great Pontypool and Wales forward of recent years, Terry Cobner

The beauty and graciousness of the park is an incongruous setting for a style of play with few subtleties. When the sun shone the other day and the men sat, shirt-sleeved and colourful, on the slopes, Richard Sharp was moved to remember those occasional Sunday matches he used to play in Dorking. The comparison with genteel Surrey, I presume, ended once the teams took the field as Pontypool, though not at their best, proceeded to take Coventry ruthlessly apart.

The park, once the possession of the Hanbury family, is now under the jurisdiction of the Torfaen district council. But the acre of so in the middle belongs, at least in spirit, to one man: Ray Prosser. Remarkably for a rugby coach, he is identified with the whole town much as Bill Shankly was with Liverpool, and has developed with singular vision a brand of rugby which is synonymous with his name.

It is based on a furious forward commitment which is awesome in power and selfless dedication. It is dour and combative and supremely efficient in gaining and keeping possession. It is so strenuously aggressive that it is often mistaken for violent intention. If in the early days Pontypool were thought to have overstepped the mark of what is acceptable within the game – London Welsh and Swansea discontinued fixtures – the legacy of that reputation, much of it unjust nowadays, has been inherited so that others are frequently the aggressors. As in the Wild West, someone, somewhere, still feels the need to test the old gunslinger reputation.

Prosser was capped 22 times as a prop for Wales. Essentially a man of the valleys he is a reluctant traveller and even had to think twice and more whether he could find it in himself to go to New Zealand with the Lions in 1959. He did so only with the proviso that he could telephone home every week to speak to his family. Despite his conventional image, he is a sensitive and compassionate man.

His wife, to whom he was utterly devoted and whom he had cared for through several years of terminal illness, died a month ago. This will leave an unbridgable gap in his life. With distressing irony, the tradedy came at the moment of his greatest rugby triumph in that at last Pontypool had realized their ambition. Now, at 55, and after 13 years of coaching, Prosser has taken his club to the Welsh Cup final.

So many teams are so alike these days that there is scarcely any way of differentiating between the mediocre. By force of personality Prosser has created a distictive style which, whether the purists would agree or not, is successful.

What is undisputed also is that, although on the periphery, he has played an influential role in the national team's success. He had never attended a Welsh coaching course and although attempts have been made to persuade him into the official fold, he has remained a maverick, outside the system.

Throughout the seventies four members of his team – the Pontypool front row and Terry Cobner – formed half of the Welsh pack. This year an unprecedented five players represented Wales in the pack. Apart from Squire, who originally played for Newport, all of them are home-grown talent whose rugby careers have been shaped by him.

Such is their command of possession in every phase that the opposition invariably have to live on a diet which is positively anorexic in its economy. What Pontypool do they do efficiently, without compromise or apology. If comments about their style are often derogatory, it should be borne in mind that rugby should have no limits to its appeal. It is up to the other teams to prove that a different style might be better. It has been done in the past. Swansea will have the opportunity tomorrow to see whether theyhave it in them to overcome Prosser's inimitable style.

Gerald Davies

Referees taking European finals

The first leg of the UEFA Cup final between Anderlecht and Benfica, on May 4, will be refereed by Rogdan Dotschev, of Bulgaria; with Charles Corvet, of the Netherlands officiating in the return leg in Lisbon on May 18. Gianfranco Menegali, of Italy, will control the Cup Winners' Cup final between Real Madrid and Aberdeen in Gothenburg on May 11. The European Cup final in Athens on May 25 between Juventus and Hamburg will be handled by Nicolae Rainer, of Romania.

BOXING

Patterson's turn to be taught his job

By Alan Hubbard

Among the many words spoken at yesterday's press luncheon for the Wembley boxing promotion on Tuesday it was curious that not one was exchanged between Scott Ledoux, who meets Frank Bruno, and his distinguished fellow American, Floyd Patterson. It was only afterwards that Ledoux admitted he was unhappy about the presecnce of the former world heavyweight champion as Bruno's freshly hired tactical adviser.

"The guy's supposed to be chairman of the New York Boxing Commission, for Chrissake", the man from Minneapolis growled. "His job is to protect the interests of all fighters, not to be committed to one. He should be above that sort of thing. It's not his job."

Ledoux, whose permanently purple-shadowed eyes and Big Dipper nose bear the classical hallmarks of a ring-worn veteran of his trade, is known in boxing for speaking his mind. It was he who caused a Grand Jury investigation into the allegedly monopolistic practices of the leading promoter, Don King, and he pulls no punches when talking of the World Boxing Council heavyweight champion, Larry Holmes. "He doesn't hit too hard but he has excellent thumbs."

Holmes was one of five world champions encountered by Ledoux in a 17-year, 47-bout career that has taken him from such high spots as Las Vegas and Madison Square Garden to, more recently, less auspicious venues in Sioux Falls, Fargo and Casper, Wyoming, known as "tank towns" on the United States circuit.

Aged 34 and, he says, a dollar millionaire from property investments, he acknowledges that he is approaching the end of that rocky road; indeed, his Wembley engagement could be the final lay-by. "Whatever the result I'm considering retirement. The time to leave is coming because while the ability is still there, the desire isn't."

Before his departure, though, he is optimistic of giving the unbeaten Bruno a different sort of tutorial to that bfeing conducted by Patterson. "I've met a few up-and-comers in my time. I don't know too much about Bruno except that none of his opponents have been in boxing's Who's Who. But I guess there's not much he can show me that I haven't seen before. Let's see what happens when I hit him on the chin."

Nodding his approval in the background was another well-seasoned American, Bobby (Boogaloo) Watts, who share top billing against the British middleweight, Tony Sibson. Like Sibson, Watts has endured a brutal beating by Marvin Hagler, but he also has the distinction of outscoring the world's most fiercesome fighter in their earlier days. He might give Sibson a shade more trouble than he needs.

● Roberto Castanon, of Spain, will need all his skill and artistry when he defends his European junior-lightweight title against a hard-hitting Frenchman, Michel Siracusa, at Aix-en-Provence tonight. Castanon has been champiion for the last six years, Reuter reports.

SQUASH RACKETS

Frenchmen serve up big money

By Richard Eaton

A sponsorship of a quarter of a million pounds over three years has been made available by the company, Guy La Roche, beginning with the French Open championships from May 10 to 15. After last week's announcement of a £200,000 grand prix circuit with major changes in ball, court, and scoring, this is the second piece of unexpectedly optimistic news squash has had in quick succession.

Comparisons with the revolutionary World Championship Squash circuit are relevant, because the French Open will be the first tournament to use a white ball, which in theory should assist television, spectators and players to see better.

It will also be played on the first court with a blue floor and four glass walls, which will be erected in the Winter Circus in Paris, and have a seating capacity of 2,000.

The introduction of these changes reflects the rapid development of the game in France. There were 15,000 players in 1980; last year there were 50,000, and the French Squash Rackets Association's projection for 1985 is 150,000 players with 1,200 courts. This year's prize-money of £27,000 means that a grade one tournament in France with all the world's leading players is, for the first time, guaranteed.

TORONTO: Mennen Cup: Jahangir Khan (Pak) bt Sharif Khan (Can), 16–18, 15–8, 15–4, 15–9. M Sanchez (Mex) bt Hidayat Jahan (Pak), 15–10, 15–11, 15–10. P Kenyon (GB) bt D Williams (Aus), 15–11, 17–15, 8–15, 15–11. M Myer (US) bt S Bowditch (WG), 15–10, 12–15, 10–15, 15–13, 15–10.

STUDENT SPORT

By Derek Wyatt

Bring your own atmosphere

Away from Crystal Palace and Gateshead, athletics has not yet become a heavily-supported spectator sport. Athletes like the Bath university sports scholar, Marina Samy, not only train on their own, but find that, in competition, they must create their own atmosphere. It can be a lonely and at times punishing sport.

British women's athletics is still in the shadow of such show-stealers as Steve Ovett and Daley Thompson, and in the past men and women middle-distance runners have not only trained separately, but it was assumed that women could not handle the same kind of training programmes. Fortunately the success of the marathon runner, Greta Waitz, and many women athletes, has shown that this attitude is outdated. But British women still lack sufficient exposure to the training methodology of Cram and Coe.

Miss Samy's main event, the 3,000 metres, is still in a stage of embryonic development in this country. But her coach, Cy Knibb, said: "If she is to qualify for the World Student Games (selection is on May 29) she has only two chances to reach the qualifying time of 9min 10sec. One comes this weekend in the Universities Athletic Union finals at Birmingham University, and the other is in a month, at the United Kingdom women's championships at Edinburgh."

If she had established herself last year, she would have received invitations to run in Japan and Israel. Like many women athletes, she badly needs competition. But last December, Miss Samy was travelling a cross-country match, and was struck by a jack-knifing lorry. Both arms, her jaw and cheekbones wer broken. Three operations and two weeks later she was back at Bath asking to borrow the exercise bycicle over Christmas. For the next six weeks she trained daily, with her arms still in plaster.

Knibb has concentrated on improving Miss Samy's endurance, suppleness, speed and strength. Her weekly milage has been increased from 30 to 70 miles. To improve her speed, and 30 of 100 metres at three quarter speed. For strength, she does a circuit and two periods of weight-training a week. The result was a 23-second improvement of 3,000 metres in her first season. Her best time is 9mins 22sec, and she will be looking to improve that this weekend.

In physiological tests carried out at Salford University, Miss Samy, who is 5ft 1in and weighs 6st 10 lb, was shown to have a similar potential to the world's leading middle-distance runners. These results have given her renewed confidence.

Her sports scholarship has given her more. She said: "I was initially surprised to have been awarded it. There were so many other contenders. Now I have time to train twice a day, and financial support from Office Cleaning Services has enabled me to buy kit, and has also helped in my race expenses."

But for her untimely injury Marina would have joined her twin sister, Shireen, in world relay championships in Japan last month. However, she is now fully restored to fitness, and a further reason why her motivation is so high at the moment is that she doesn't take too kindly to being beaten by her sister.

Commercial property/Baron Phillips

Disenchantment with the City

There is little evidence to suggest that the Confederation of British Industry's belief of an improved economy is reflected in the property market. Quite the opposite, in fact, as the market's barometer – City offices – continues to look depressed and the short-term forecast is bleak.

Despite talk of new ground being broken in the lettings market as rents climb to record levels, Richard Saunders & Partners City floorspace survey indicates an entirely different picture. During March just over 200,000 sq ft of office accommodation was either let or came under offer in the City while the amount of vacant space at 3,380,178 sq ft is the highest since July 1977.

In the City fringes empty office buildings now total 4,875,324 sq ft after a month's lettings of 182,490 sq ft. Prospective tenants looking at the City market, in its broadest sense, can now choose from more than eight million sq ft of commercial buildings.

Of course these figures do not include the grandiose office schemes proposed just south of the river within the SE1 postal district. If built they will probably add a further three to four million sq ft to the existing total.

Estate agents and developers, naturally, adopt a far more positive attitude to the oversupply than a casual observer might. The RS&P figures indicate a stock which at present take-up levels is only one and a half years' supply in the City fringes, apart from any new developments which may come on stream within that period.

Demand is clearly high for the central, well-defined banking and insurance areas of the City where very little is available for letting. Of the three main buildings let last month, the 38,735 sq ft at Milk Street and 31,000 sq ft at Cliffords Inn, are clearly less than prime. These buildings alone accounted for half the City's take-up during March.

Clearly there is growing disenchantment with the City market and its fringes. Lysander Estates' decision to pull out of the massive £200m Surrey Docks development and allow the London Docklands Development Corporation to sell the site piecemeal, probably to housebuilders and industrial builders, underlines the investors' view.



Derby-based developers Viking Property Group have released details of their first office project in the US. Located on the corner of Connecticut Avenue and M Street in Washington DC, the project includes restoration and refurbishment of one of the few remaining Victorian houses built in the city. Viking propose to develop 133,440 sq ft of new offices behind the house, together with some retail space at street level. Weatherall Green & Smith are acting for Viking.

Closer to the City, insurance giant Legal & General has decided to sell its 87,000 sq ft office building in Finsbury Square. The building is in a part of the City which has found little favour among tenants for two or three years; at one time it was estimated that around Finsbury Square and Finsbury Pavement as much as a million sq ft of offices were available to let.

Legal & General's building was once leased to the Iranian oil Services but has been vacant since the Government decided to wind up the company's activities. Richard Ellis and Weatherall Green & Smith, the agents, are to offer the freehold for sale at £11m.

The insurance group says it is prepared to grant a new 25-year lease on the eight-floor building at a rent of less than £10 a sq ft. That may be optimistic: in the present market an owner-occupier may be more likely than a tenant.

The City has gone extremely flat despite the speculation surrounding Atlas House on Cheapside, reportedly being leased at a rent over the £32.12 a sq ft level established in Bishopsgate last summer.

Future expansion and growth in lettings may depend on the outcome of the long-awaited general election. But at the heart of the problem is the simple fact that commerce and industry are not expanding. It did look for some time as if the City was recession proof; it clearly is not.

● A rent of £13 a sq ft is being sought for the Ripley-based group's new 48,700 sq ft office development in Staines. Now under construction, the scheme is being undertaken in conjunction with Clerical Medical and General Life Assurance.

The first phase of the £11m project is nearing completion. The smaller of two self-contained office buildings, covering 16,600 sq ft, will be ready for occupation at the end of May and the other 32,100 sq ft block in June.

A key feature of the development, which is only 10 minutes drive from Heathrow airport, is the 300 parking spaces available. Sole letting agents are Weatherall Green & Smith.

● Plans for a major £35m Birmingham city centre development look set to go ahead following government approval of urban development grant aid for the new Penta hotel.

Discussions have been under way for almost two years between the city council and Henry Boot Project about a proposal to develop 181,000 sq ft of offices at Paradise Circus alongside the new hotel. Henry Boot will build four self-contained office buildings in the heart of the city centre.

Retained agents Grimley & Son said they believed the scheme would provide the finest standard of office buildings in the region. The first block, covering 36,000 sq ft, will have the major advantage of substantial car parking facilities, unusual in a city centre location.

هكذا من الأصل

Car Buyer's Guide

Motoring by Clifford Webb

Vauxhall's baby from Spain with boot

The Vauxhall Nova, General Motor's long-awaited answer to the BL Metro, Ford Fiesta and Volkswagen Polo goes on sale in Britain today after months of useful publicity. A union threat to ban its importation from Spain unless Vauxhall increased production in the United Kingdom has served to whet appetites for the car.

It is seven months since it was launched at the Paris motor show as the Opel Corsa. Now that the union dispute has been resolved Vauxhall is joining the battle in the small car class for the first time. The car itself folllows the well-established pattern of a tranverse engine driving the front wheels with three power options, 1 litre, 1.2 and 1.3.

It is an adequate performer without being particularly exciting. But it does have one considerable advantage. It is the only car in its class being offered in saloon form as well as the universally popular hatchback. More important, the Nova's boot is not just a nominal protrusion offering the greater security of a boot lid instead of the more vulnerable shelf-covered space of a hatchback. At 15.3 cubic feet it is positively voluminous and it has a low sill for easy loading. The saloon version of its big brother, the Cavalier, has one of the best boots in its class and is still only 3 cubic feet bigger.

Prices for the Nova rage from £3,495 for the 1 litre to £4,273 for the 1.2 litre, three-door hatchback. The price for the 1.3 SR will not be announced until July, because of that model's delayed appearance in Britain.

Families who in the past have had to stretch their budgets to buy a larger car simply for the boot space will find the Nova saloon offers a much less expensive alternative.

There are about 30 variations of the Nova design but Vauxhall have sensibly opted to import only five: a 1 litre and 1.2 litre in hatch and saloon form, and the more sporty 1.3 SR. All have a four-speed transmission except the SR, which has a five-speed box with fourth and fifth gears acting as overdrives.

The basic Nova has a top speed of 87 mph, the 1.2 litre reaches 94 mph while the SR just tops 103 mph.

Vauxhall plan to sell 27,000 Novas by the end of the year and about 50,000 in 1984. Executives admit privately that both figures probably err on the side of caution. No sense in stirring up more trouble with the unions or the strong lobby in the House of Commons which would like to see curbs placed on Spanish car imports until the Spaniards open their protected home market to reciprocal exports from Britain.

In necessarily brief drives in Germany and here at home I had reservations about the noise level and what appears to over-gearing in the endless quest for better fuel economy. This is particularly noticeable in the 1 litre engine which last appeared in the old Opel Kadett and has now been given a facelift with the recently developed Weber 32TL carburettor, higher compression ratio and a modified camshaft.

Vauxhall Nova: General Motors answer to the Metro

New Toyota at a bargain price.

Toyota's all-new Camry 1.8 litre saloon went on sale in Britain last week, accompanied by the biggest roll on the publicity drum yet sounded by Toyota UK. The first transverse-engined, front-wheel drive car from the Japanese giant would "lay to rest all the old canards about Japanese cars being slow, dated, over-ornate and have poor handling and roadholding".

At £5,782 it is competitively priced, a bargain by several hundred pounds, but a bargain with limitations which must be accepted before you buy it and not live to regret afterwards.

But let me start with the good things. The obvious contender for pride of place is the new ohc aluminium engine, which is in line with the latest trend in engine design. Most manufacturers are rushing through power units with considerable increased low-speed pulling. The prize is obvious: lower revs plus higher gear ratios spell better fuel consumption.

The new Toyota unit is claimed to produce 90 per cent of its torque from only 2000 rpm and after an extended test I have no reason to doubt that claim. The engine starts immediately on its automatic choke and settles quickly into a comparatively slow but reliable tickover. Ever since I drove my first Toyota with a five-speed gearbox I have had high regard for the accuracy and easy operation of its change mechanism. Allied to the new engine it makes for very relaxed driving indeed.

Initial reservations about the cable-operated change mechanism proved groundless and show just how much the whole art of linking controls has progressed since the pioneering days of the Maxi's dreadful five-speed, cable-operated box.

VITAL STATISTICS
Model: Camry 1.8 saloon
Price: £5,782
Engine: 1832cc
Performance: Max speed 110 mph, 0-60 mph 12 secs
Official consumption: Urban 30.7 mpg, 56 mph 47.9 mpg; 75 mph 35 mpg
Length: 14.48ft
Insurance: Group 4/5

On the road the Camry is happy with gear changes made at under 2000 rpm and pulls away as enthusiastically as other cars using twice as many revs. In fact, within a couple of days I was changing direct from third to fifth to take full advantage of its slogging ability. Older drivers will recall cars of their youth with similar traits when engines had the same long-stroke layout as the new Toyota.

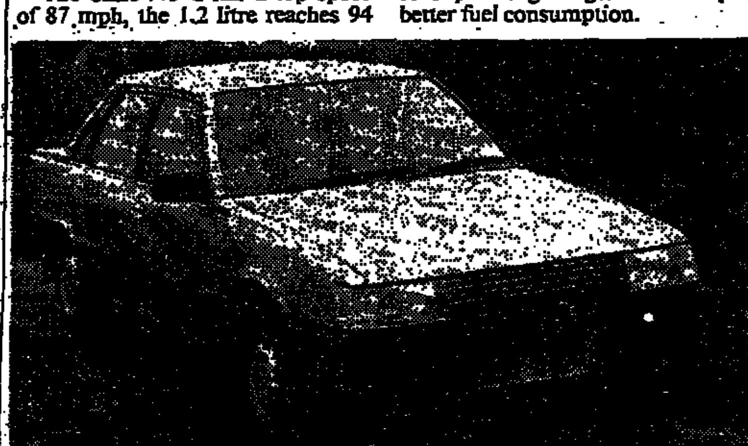
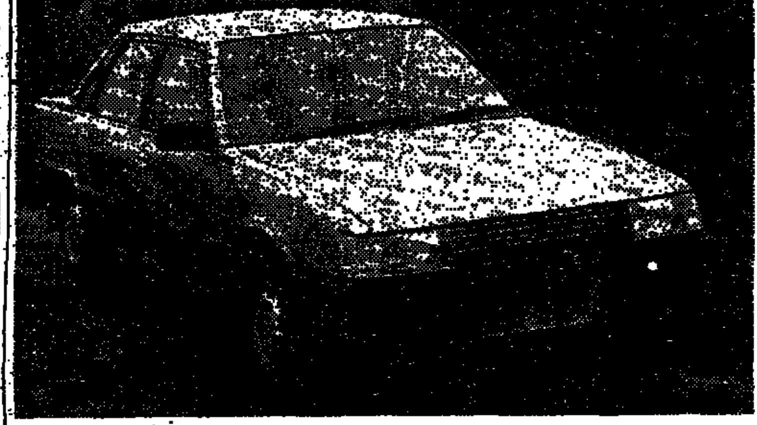
The result is a very long-legged, frugal car which in my hands returned about 35 mpg. On the subject of fuel I must commend the fuel gauge layout. When the needle on the standard gauge reaches one quarter full a second instrument takes over from a quarter to empty. By using a big scale for this the almost discernible movement of the needle deeps you constantly alert to the need to refill.

The Camry is a full five-seater offering lots of space and comfort in the rear with leg, head and hip room comparable with the best in its class. The boot is spacious and well-shaped.

So where does it fall down? I found the lack of power steering particularly irksome. The Camry has all the problems of a heavy transverse engine mounted over the front wheels. It is a chronic understeerer which has often to be haulted round corners to the sound of the tyres "scrubbing off".

Slow speed manoeuvering is a tiring business. Toyota tell me they have no intention of offering power steering as an option at present. I think they may well regret it.

Despite the use of rack and pinion steering there is also some vagueness about its straight line steering at speed. Together with an unacceptable level of wind noise it imparts a feeling of edginess which is all the more noticeable because of the engine's effortless high-speed capability. At 70 mph it is still turning over at less than 3000 rpm.

Toyota Camry: competitive, but with limitations

Motor caravans

Spring has arrived with a bang for the motor caravan manufacturers and not before time. They have been waiting more than two years for the sun to shine through the worst recession their industry has experienced in modern times. About 25 firms went out of business and some of those who managed to cling on will be working for the next couple of years to pay off the bank loan.

This week a dozen of the best known names staged their own press day to announce that order books are growing again. Most are working overtime and a few are recruiting new workers.

Mr Ian Macpherson, chairman of Autohomes (UK) and chairman of the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders motor caravan group, said last July that the industry had achcived a remarkable success which went virtually unreported. After a long campaign it persuaded the Government to reduce car tax on motor caravans by 40 per cent, the equivalent of £300 off the average price.

BIRTHS

MARRIAGES

DEATHS

MEMORIAL SERVICES

IN MEMORIAM

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE ENGAGEMENT between Daniel, son of Mr and Mrs T. Darling of Crowthorne, Berkshire and Amanda, daughter of Mr and Mrs A. McNicholas, of Camberley, Surrey.

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MAY DAY

The cancellation & alteration deadline for Monday, May 2nd is Friday, April 29th at 2 p.m.

Copy deadline Thursday, April 28th at 3.30 p.m. Copy alteration & cancellation deadline Tuesday, May 3rd & Wednesday, May 4th will be 3.30 p.m. Friday, April 29th.

The advertisement department will be closed on Monday.

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CORFU 2,9,16,23/5	£113	£145	£102
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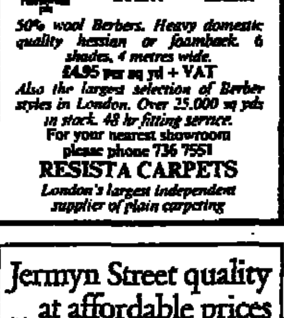
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هكذا من الأمل

Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Davalle

BBC 1

6.00 Ceefax AM: Any television set can receive this service which gives information about the weather, sport and traffic as well as carrying a comprehensive news coverage.

6.30 Breakfast Time: Selina Scott and Nick Ross are the presenters. Items include news at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30: regional news at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; Today's papers at 7.32 and 8.32; Breakfast Time doctor (between 6.45 and 7.00), Keep Fit (6.45-7.00), Tonight's TV (7.15-7.30), Gardening 7.30-7.45) and Food and Cooking (8.45-9.00).

9.25 For Schools, Colleges: Higher Education; 9.52 Sex Education; 10.15 Home Economics; 11.00 Capricorn Game, part 1; 11.19 Hyn o Fyd; 11.40 Life and Social Skills. 12.00 Closedown.

12.30 News After Noon; 12.57 Financial Report. And subtitled news headlines.

1.00 Pebble Mill at One: The lunchtime music and chat show includes Peter Seabrook's *regular gardening* spot, Dig This; 1.45 Postman Pat (r); 2.02 For Schools, Colleges: A Visitor from Outer Space: 2.35 Ghana.

3.00 Sir Frank Whittle: Jet Pioneer. A film about the man who *made the conventional method* of aircraft propulsion obsolete 42 years ago (r).

3.55 Play School: Barbara Mitchelhill's story The Very Old Black Kettle (on BBC 2, at 11.00 am); 4.20 The New Schmoo: cartoon; 4.40 Playhouse: The Witching House. With Geoffrey Baydon, Tony Boncza and Roy Kinnear (r).

5.10 Breakthrough: John Craven tells the story of Joseph Lister who, 120 years ago, pioneered "clean" surgery in London hospitals.

5.40 News: with Jan Leeming; 6.00 South East at Six; 6.22 Nationwide. Including Desmond Lynam with Sportswide at 6.45.

7.00 Comedy Classic: The Good Life. The Goods (Richard Briers, Felicity Kendal) are far less good at selling their garden produce than they are at growing it. With Penelope Keith and Paul Eddington as the adjoining Leadbeatter's (r).

7.30 Odd One Out: Quiz show, conducted by Paul Daniels.

8.00 The Time of Your Life: The comedy actress Irene Handl recalls the day in 1937 when she first took to the stage – as a maid. Other time travellers in the show, hosted by Noel Edmonds, are Barbara Cartland, Leslie Mitchell, and the Tiny Winters Band.

8.30 Are You being served? Department store fun. The finger of suspicion points at Mr Humphries (John Inman) when cash goes missing from the till.

9.00 A Party Political Broadcast: by the Liberal Party; 9.10 News: with Michael Buerk.

9.35 Cagney and Lacy: A friend of the two policemen, once a victim of a rape, is forced to relive her courtroom ordeal.

10.25 Isles Apart: The Channel Islands. A wildlife film. With Andrew Cooper; 10.55 News.

11.00 Film: Queimada! (1968) Drama, with Marlon Brando as a British *agent provocateur* who is sent out to a *Caribbean* island to destroy the rebel leader he created 10 years previously. With Evaristo Marquez, Renato Salvatori. Directed by Gillo Pontecorvo. Ends at 12.55.

TV-am

6.00 Daybreak, followed at 6.30 by Good Morning Britain, presented by Lynda Berry and Nick Owen. Items include news at 6.00, 6.15, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30, 9.00 and 9.11; *Sport at 6.40 and 7.30;* Morning papers at 6.33 and 8.33; TV spot at 7.50; guest celebrity (Alec McCowen) at 8.20; money item at 8.40 and cookery spot (with Michael Barry) at 9.05; Closedown at 9.15.

ITV/LONDON

9.30 For Schools: Bristol; 9.55 Dragonflies; 10.15 Homes and families; 10.35 Everyday French; 10.58 *Social education* and growing up; 11.15 Yorkshire sheep farm; 11.32 Boats and boating; 11.44 Eyes.

12.00 Topper's Tales; with the late Julian Orchard (r); 12.10 *Rainbow; pirates* (also at 4.00); 12.30 Writers on Writing: Richard Hoggart interviews playwright Peter Nicholas (Poppy; Privates on Parade, The National Health etc).

1.00 News; 1.20 Thames area News; 1.30 About Britain: The Best of Spirits. A film about the followers of "psycho-expansion", who believe they can project themselves back into history or forwards into the future.

2.00 A Plus: Ralph Nader, the American champion of consumers' rights, is interviewed. And North London children are seen being tested for lead levels in their blood.

2.30 Racing from Newmarket: We see the 2.35, 3.05 and 3.35.

4.00 Children's ITV; Rainbow (r); 4.20 Dangermouse: episode 5 of the serial; 4.25 Animals in Action: Treasure Islands. Another of Keith Shackleton's wildlife films; 4.50 Freetime: An amateur theatre group in Middlesborough; the new Balham band called Curfew; and advice for budgerigar owners.

5.15 Make Me Laugh: Chuckle-raising contest. With Bernie Winters, Mathew Kelly.

5.45 News; 6.00 The 6 o'Clock Show: with Michael Aspel and Janet Street-Porter.

7.00 Family Fortunes: The Athertons from St Helen's, Merseyside versus the Beavans from Wedmore. With Bob Monkhouse.

7.30 Space Women: (See Choice).

8.30 Hallelujah! New comedy series about the Salvation Army, starring Thora Hird as over over-zealous captain who is thought to be ready for retirement. On the agenda tonight: the reconversion of a local bingo hall to a Salvation Army citadel.

9.00 Death of an Expert Witness: Episode 4 of this Robin Chapman dramatization of the PD James murder story. The secret of the murdered Lorrimer's love affair with Domenica Howarth is out. With Roy Marsden as the man from the Yard. Also starring Barry Foster and Meg Davies (as Domenica).

10.00 Party Political Broadcast: by the Liberal Party.

10.10 News from ITN.

10.40 The London Programme: Sir Kenneth Newman, the Metropolitan Commissioner of Police, has given notice that he plans to beat London's burglars. He appears in tonight's programme to discuss his chances of success.

11.10 *Shoot Pool!* the second match in the John Bull Bitter London Pool Championships. Playing tonight are 'Whirlwind' Alex Shennan and Charlie Nolan.

12.25 Close: with Barbara Leigh-Hunt.

Joe Martin and Frances Tomelty: BBC2, 9.30pm.

CHOICE

● SPACE WOMEN (ITV, 7.30 pm) documents the crumbling of yet another bastion of male exclusiveness. The Russians put a woman in space many moons ago. This year, the Americans hope to follow suit, the lady destined for a place in the history books being Sally Ride. Given the nature of her trail-blazing exploit, it is a name that could hardly be improved on. One of the women astronauts-in-waiting who provide the subject matter in tonight's equal opportunities film, has an equally apt name, Sharron Lucid. *In her rapidly-delivered* statement of confidence in her ability to keep her end up in a man's extra-terrestrial world, she says that taking a ride in the space shuttle will be no worse than driving down the Houston freeway. One of the less technical aspects of Space Women is what happens when husband and wife, both astronauts, are rocketed into space together. The film assures us that this is bound to happen, eventually. Marriages can survive in stressful environments on Earth, one astronaut-husband says, confident that "it will all work out" in space, too. But if it does not, there seems little opportunity several miles up for either spouse to storm out, threatening to go back to *mother. Not omitted from the film is* the question that crosses many a lay mind when astronauts are discussed; it is even more intriguing when the company is mixed. What about bodily functions, and the need for privacy? Space Women poses the question, and answers it, too.

● Technically, the first instalment of THE FILE ON JILL HATCH (BBC 2, 9.30 pm) is in the cinema movie class: Dramatically, it is not always as banal as the sequence in which white West Country wife and black Alabama husband stroll across Clifton suspension bridge and, in a brave show of integration, dovetail their singing of Rule Britannia, and America, America.

● Radio highlight: Graham Green's ingenious two-hander YES AND NO (Radio 3, 7.05 pm) has Clive Francis *as the overbearing stage director* and Alex Jennings as the hapless actor who says nothing except the two words in the title. It is *how* he say them that matters. This is 25 minutes of radio time most entertainingly filled.

BBC 2

6.05 Open University (until 8.10). Maths Method: forecasting; 6.30 *Ocean Crust;* 6.55 *Canal* and Harbour Modelling; 7.20 Language Development; 7.45 Evolution of Fishes.

11.00 Play School: (See BBC 1, at 3.55).

11.25 World Snooker: More semi-final action in the Embassy World Professional Championship. From the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield. Further coverage tonight at 7.20, 10.25 and 12.30 all on BBC 2.

5.10 TV and Politics: *Britain.* Open *University film (the first in a* short series of four) about the 1976 Labour and Conservative party conferences held in Blackpool and Brighton respectively.

5.35 Weekend Outlook: What is in *store for Open University* students.

5.40 The Falcon's Brother (1942) Modestly made thriller with real-life brothers George Sanders and Tom Conway as movie brothers involved in a plot to assassinate a South American diplomat. Also starring Jane Randolph; 6.40 Cartoon: Gallery.

6.50 Madhur Jaffrey's Indian Cookery: Masoor Dal (r); 7.15 News, with sub-titles.

7.20 World Snooker: The frame of the day in the Embassy Professional Championship semi-finals in Sheffield (more at 10.25 and 12.30).

7.50 Did You See . . .? Bill Forsyth, the film director, Rosie Thomas, the novelist, and Alexai Sayle comment on Triangle (BBC 1), Glasgow (BBC 2) and Party Satirical Broadcast (Channel 4) and Nick Ross comments on the tricks of the trade on TV. In the chair: Ludovic Kennedy.

8.35 Gardeners' World: How to get the best out of dahlias; taking cuttings from conifers and shrubs; planting tomatoes and cucumbers.

9.00 Entertainment USA: Jonathan King reports on the *entertainment scene* in New Orleans. He interviews Fats Domino and the American group Kiss.

9.30 The File on Jill Hatch: Part one of a three-part drama series, set in England and the United States between 1943 and 1981, about the marriage between a black American GI and an English girl. Starring Frances Tomelty, Tim Woodward, and Joe Martin. A BBC/WNET New York co-production (see Choice).

10.25 World Snooker: More coverage of the Embassy Championship (also at 12.30).

10.50 A Party Political Broadcast: by the Liberal Party.

11.00 Newsnight.

11.50 The Old Grey Whistle Test: with Spandau Ballet and London Wainwright. Also an interview with Meat Loaf.

12.30 World Snooker: Final visit of the day to Sheffield. Ends at 1.30 am.

CHANNEL 4

5.15 Acting with Anna: Another session with Anna Scher and *her north London school of* young actors who tonight improvise on the theme of dealing with animals after Miss Scher has recited a sad poem about a trapped rabbit.

5.30 Countdown: Words and numbers game. With Richard Whiteley and Kenneth Williams.

6.00 Switch: Pop music show, with Tears for Fears, Heaven 17, and the Appollinaires. Including video review and Marc Issue's regular location *report. Live from Bushey in* Herts.

7.00 Channel Four News.

7.30 The Friday Alternative: Tonight's edition includes items on murder and the media (why the Press and television cover some stories and ignore others); on the cruelty to horses in the Grand National; and an examination of the link between the car industry disputes at Cowley and Hailwood.

8.00 What a Picture! John *Hedgecoe's photography* course, for beginners and for the more advanced. Tonight, he uses light to "paint" pictures of the gardens of a château in Normandy and a wedding in an English country *church. Plus still-life* arrangements in a studio.

8.30 Jazz on Four: Lionel Hampton and his band entertain at last year's Capital Jazz Festival at Knebworth Park.

9.30 Capstick Capers: Another of *Northern entertainer Tony* Capstick's comedy and music shows. The guest star is Dave Berry. With Earl Okin and tap dancer Will Gaines.

10.00 Cheers: Comedy series set in an American saloon bar. There is a row after Diane (Shelley Long) fails to be impressed by a customer's stories of his exploits as a spy in the Second World War.

10.30 Kill or Cure? First in a new series of medical documentaries which concentrate on the side-effects caused by prescribed drugs. Tonight's film is about Smon, the crippling, blinding disease of the nervous system (short for sub acute myelo-optic neuropathy) which is caused by drugs that include Entero-Vioform, once recommended for stomach troubles while holidaying abroad. Joan Shenton is the presenter. She is medical correspondent for Thames Television.

11.15 Film: The Big Clock (1947*). Thriller, atmospherically directed by John Farrow, with Charles Laughton as a publishing tycoon who, after murdering his mistress, instructs his own organization to track down the one key witness who could reveal his guilt. With Ray Milland as a magazine editor, Maureen O'Sullivan and George Macready. Ends at 12.55.

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today. 6.25 Shipping Forecast.
6.30 Today, including 6.45 Prayer for the Day. 6.55, 7.55 Weather. 7.00, 8.00 oday's News. 7.25, 8.25 Sport. 7.30, 8.30 News Headlines. 7.45 Thought for the Day. 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament: 8.50 Your Letters. 8.57 Weather; Travel.
9.00 News.
9.05 Desert Island Discs: Max Boyce.
10.00 News.
10.02 International Assignment.
10.30 Morning Story "Imagination" by Jill Norris.
10.45 Daily Service †.
11.00 News; Travel.
11.03 On the Road.
12.00 News.
12.02 You and Yours.
12.27 My Music †. 12.55 Weather; Travel; Programme News.
1.00 The World at One: News.
1.40 The Archers. 1.55 Shipping Forecast.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour. From Bangor, north Wales. Items include the story of the Ladies of Llangollen (they eloped with each other), and episode four of The London Embassy.
3.00 News.
3.02 The Moonstone by Wilkie Collins, dramatised for radio in six parts by *Brian Goar* (1) †
4.00 News.
4.02 Just After Four.
4.10 Your Move or Mine?
4.40 The Way the Normans Rode (5): Picton to Pemroke.
5.00 News magazine. 5.50 Shipping Forecast. 5.55 Weather; Programme News. 6.00 The Six O'clock News; Financial Report.
6.30 Going Places. The world of travel and transport.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Pick of the Week. Programme highlights.†
8.10 Profile. A person portrait.
8.30 Any Questions? From Abergele in north Wales. The panel tonight consists of the *author Russell Braddon, Lady* Platt (who, on May 1, takes up her new post as chairman of the Equal Opportunities Commission), author and playwright Alun Richards, and Dafydd Wigley, the Plaid Cymru MP for Caernarvon.
9.15 Letter from America by Alistair Cooke.
9.30 Kaleidoscope. Arts magazine. 9.59 Weather.
10.00 The World Tonight: News.
10.35 Week Ending. A satirical review of the week's news.†
11.00 A book at Bedtime "The Road to Oxiana" by Robert Byron (last of ten parts).
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
11.45 John Ebdon in the BBC Sound Archives.
12.00 News; Weather.
12.15 Shipping Forecast; Inshore Forecast.
ENGLAND: VHF with above except: 6.25-6.30 Weather; Travel. 9.05-10.45 For Schools: 11.00 For Schools: 11.00 Music Workshop. 11.30 Listen with Mother (new series). 11.40-12.00 For Schools: Country Dancing Stage II. 1.55 Listening Corner. 2.00-3.00 For Schools. 5.50-5.55 PM (continued). 11.00-12.00 Study on 4: 11.00 Euromagazine 11.30 Broadside On.

Lady Platt: Any Questions? (Radio 4, 8.30 pm)

Radio 3

6.55 Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Morning Concert. Smetana, Krommer, Janacek; records.†8.00 News. 8.05 Morning Concert (continued) Sibelius, Bach, Lassus, Palestrina, Mozart; records.
9.00 News.
9.05 This Week's Composers Falla and his Contemporaries: Tarrega, Halffter, Falla; records.†
10.00 La Raphaele, *Chamber music* by Buxtehude, Bach, Telemann.†
10.35 The young Schubert, records.†
11.20 Songs by Britten, Purcell and Tippett.†
12.10 BBC Welsh Symphony Orchestra, Part 1: Mathias, Beethoven. We hear Mathias's Divertimento, Op 7, and *Beethoven's Symphony No 8* .†
1.00 News.
1.05 Six Continents.
1.20 BBC Welsh S.O., Part 2: Delius, Elgar. We hear Delius's Walk to the Paradise Garden and the Elgar Cello Concerto (played by Moray Welsh).†
2.05 Four Spanish Musicians, Victoria de los Angeles.†
3.00 The British Symphony, Hamilton Harty-The Irish Symphony: Record.†
4.00 Choral Evensong from Paisley Abbey.†
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure.†
6.30 Music for Guitar, Recital by Segovia: Sor, Bach, Falla, Ponce, Turina; records.†
7.05 Yes and No. A theatrical fragment by Graham Greene.
7.30 Voices and Horns, direct from the Broadcasting Centre, Birmingham, Part 1: Britten, Tippett.†
8.10 Wise Men and Fools. Robin Hodgkin on the teacher-pupil relationship.
8.30 Voices and Horns, Part 2: Schumann, Schubert.†
9.20 Russian Piano Music, Stravinsky, Prokofiev.†
10.00 Signs of Glory. Reflections on modern Spanish poetry by Alastair Kilmarnock, with readings in Castilian, Catalan and English.
10.30 Burkhard and Martin, Concert on records.†
11.15 News.

VHF only – Open University: 6.15 to 6.55. And 11.20 pm to 12.20 am.

Radio 2

5.00 Ray Moore† 7.30 Terry Wogan† 10.00 Alan Whicker† 12.00 Music While You Work† 12.30 Gloria Hunniford *including 2.02 Sports Desk*† 2.30 A Party Political Broadcast by the Liberal Party. 2.35 Ed Stewart including 3.02 Sports Desk† 4.00 David Hamilton including 4.02, 5.30 Sports Desk† 6.00 John Dunn including 6.45 Sport and Classified Results† 7.30 Friday Night is Music Night direct from the Fairfield *Hall, Croydon* 8.20-8.40 Interval† 9.30 Comediennes† 9.57 Sports Desk. 10.00 The Random Jottings of Hinge and Bracket. 10.30 Russell Davis presents Round Midnight. (Stereo from midnight). 1.00 Night Owls† 2.00-5.00 Liz Allen presents You and the Night and the Music.

Radio 1

6.00 Adrian John with The Early Show. 7.00 Mike Reid. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Mike Smith, including 12.30 Newsbeat. 2.00 Steve Wright. 4.30 *Peter Powell's Select-A-Disc.* 5.30 Newsbeat. 5.45 Roundtable. 7.00 Andy Peebles. 10.00 The Friday Rock Show with Tommy Vance† 12.00 Close. VHF RADIOS 1 AND 2: 5.00 With Radio 2. 5.00 With Radio 2. 10.00 With Radio 1. 12.00-5.00am With Radio 2.

WORLD SERVICE

6.00 The Art of Daniel Barenboim. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-Four-Hours News Summary. 7.30 Sing, Sing, Sing. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 Short Story. 8.30 Thirty Minute Theatre. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Album Time. 10.15 Merchant Navy *Programme. 11.00 World News.* 11.09 News About Britain. 11.15 In the Meantime. 11.25 Ulster Newsletter. 11.30 Meridian. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 Jazz for the Asking. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 1.30 With Great Pleasure. 2.15 Letterbox. 2.30 The Art of Daniel Barenboim. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Science in Action. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 8.30 Thirty Minute Theatre. 9.00 Network UK. 9.15 Music Now. 9.45 Portraits of our Time. 10.00 The World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 Book Choice. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 From the Weeklies. 11.30 Electro Mania Lives. 12.00 World News. 12.09 News About Britain. 12.15 *Radio Newsreel.* 12.30 About Britain. 12.45 Sarah and Company. 1.15 Outlook: News Summary. 1.45 Love and Mr Lewisham. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Network UK. 2.30 People and Politics. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News About Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 Pleasures. 3.50 Recording of the Week. 4.45 Fincial News. 4.55 Reflections. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Review of the British Press. 5.15 About Britain. 5.45 The World Today.

All times in GMT

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN.
† Stereo. ★ Black and white. (r) Repeat.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1 MF 1053kHz/285m or 1089kHz/275m. Radio 2 MF 693kHz/433m or 909kHz/330m. Radio 1/2 VHF 88-91MHz. Radio 3 VHF 90-92.5MHz, *MF 1215kHz/247m. Radio 4 LF 200kHz/1500m and VHF 92-95MHz. Greater London Area MF 720kHz/417m. LBC MF 1152kHz/261m,* VHF 97.3MHz. Capital MF 1548kHz/194m, VHF 95.8MHz. BBC Radio London MF 1458kHz/206m and VHF 94.9MHz. World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

BBC 1

Wales 12.57pm-1.00 News. 3.53-3.55 News. 6.0-6.26 Wales Today. 9.0-9.10 Party Political Broadcast. 10.25-10.55 Celena. 10.55-11.0 News. Scotland 12.55-1.0pm News. 6.0-6.22 Reporting Scotland. 9.0-9.10 Party Political Broadcast. 10.25-10.55 Beechgrove Garden. *10.55-11.0 News. Northern* Ireland 12.57pm-1.00 News. 3.53-3.55 News. 6.0-6.26 Scene Around Six. 10.25-10.55 Spotlight. 10.55-11.0 News. 12.55 News. England 6.0-6.22pm Regional news magazines. 10.25-10.55 East – Weekend. Midlands – Midlands Tonight. North – Gardeners' Direct Line. North East – Coast to Coast. North West – Outlook. South – Don't Fence Me In. South West – According to Hoyle. West – Day Out.

S4C

Starts 2.20pm Stori Sbri. 2.35 Y Ganrif Hon. 2.55 Interval. 3.35 Root and Branch. 4.00 Anything We Can Do. 4.25 Old Country. 4.50 Clwb S4C. 4.55 Pili-Pala. 5.00 Sbri Celwydd Golau. 5.30 Loose Talk. 6.30 Countdown. 6.55 Gair yn ei bryd. 7.00 Teledied Gwleidyddol Ar Ran Parti Rhyddfrydol Cymru. 7.10 Newyddion Saith. *7.40 Gororau.* 8.10 Pobol y cwm. 8.40 Y byd yn ei le. 9.15 Snwcer. 9.45 Cheers. Comedy. 10.10 Soap. 10.35 Film: Angel (Stephen Rea) Musician sets out to avenge murder. 12.05am Jazz on Four. 1.00 Gair yn ei Bryd. 1.05 Closedown.

TYNE TEES

As London except: Starts 9.25am-9.30 News 1.20pm-1.30 News and Lookaround 5.15-5.45 Joanie Loves Chachi 6.00 News 6.02 Make Me Laugh 6.30-7.00 Northern Life 10.42 Friday Live: North v South debate 12.10am Making a Living 12.40 Christian *Calendar 12.45 Closedown.*

ANGLIA

As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News 5.15-5.45 Gambit 6.00-7.00 About Anglia 10.40 9 to 5 11.10 Members Only 11.40 Film: Hello to Yesterday (Jean Simmons) Suburban housewife is seduced by London 1.20am You Know the Old Saying. Closedown.

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News *6.00-7.00 Calendar and Sport* 10.40 Pro-Celebrity Snooker 11.25 Film: Death in Deep Water. Gangster on the run plumps for the seaside 12.45am Closedown.

TSW

As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Today South West. 6.30-7.00 What's Ahead. 10.45 Film: Get Carter! (Michael Caine). London gangster travels north to investigate his brother's death. 12.40am Postscript. 12.46 Closedown.

HTV

As London except: 12.00pm-1.30 News. 5.15-5.45 Young Doctors. 6.00 News. 6.30-7.00 Survival of the Fittest. 11.10 Film: Bachelor of Hearts (Hardy Kruger) German student suffers Cambridge and vice versa. 12.45am Closedown.

HTV WALES

As HTV West except: 6.00pm-7.00 Wales at Six. 10.40 Where the Tide Turned. 11.40 Journey to the Unknown. 12.40am Closedown.

GRANADA

1.20pm-1.30 Paint Along with Nancy. 6.00 Make Me Laugh. 6.30-7.00 Granada Reports. 10.40 The Granada 100: Local elections. 11.25 Film: The Horseman. 1.25 Closedown.

CENTRAL

As London except: 1.20pm News. 1.30-2.00 Three Little Words. 6.00-7.00 News. 10.40 Film: Pretty Maids All in a Row (Rock Hudson, Angie Dickinson) High school students learn about murder. 12.30am Closedown.

GRAMPIAN

As London except: Starts 9.25am9.30 First Thing. 1.20pm-1.30 News. 6.00-7.00 North Tonight. 10.40 Points North. 11.40 Journey to the Unknown. 12.40am News. 12.45 Closedown.

SCOTTISH

As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm 6.00 Scotland Today 6.30 Sports Extra 6.45-7.00 Here Here 10.40 Ways and Means 11.10 9 to 5 11.40 Late Call 11.45 City of Angels 12.40am Closedown.

ULSTER

As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 Lunchtime 6.00 Good Evening. Ulster 6.30-7.00 Two of Us 10.40 Witness 10.45 Film: Kiss, Kiss, Kill, Kill! Ruthless casanova falls for one of his victims 12.05am News, Closedown.

BORDER

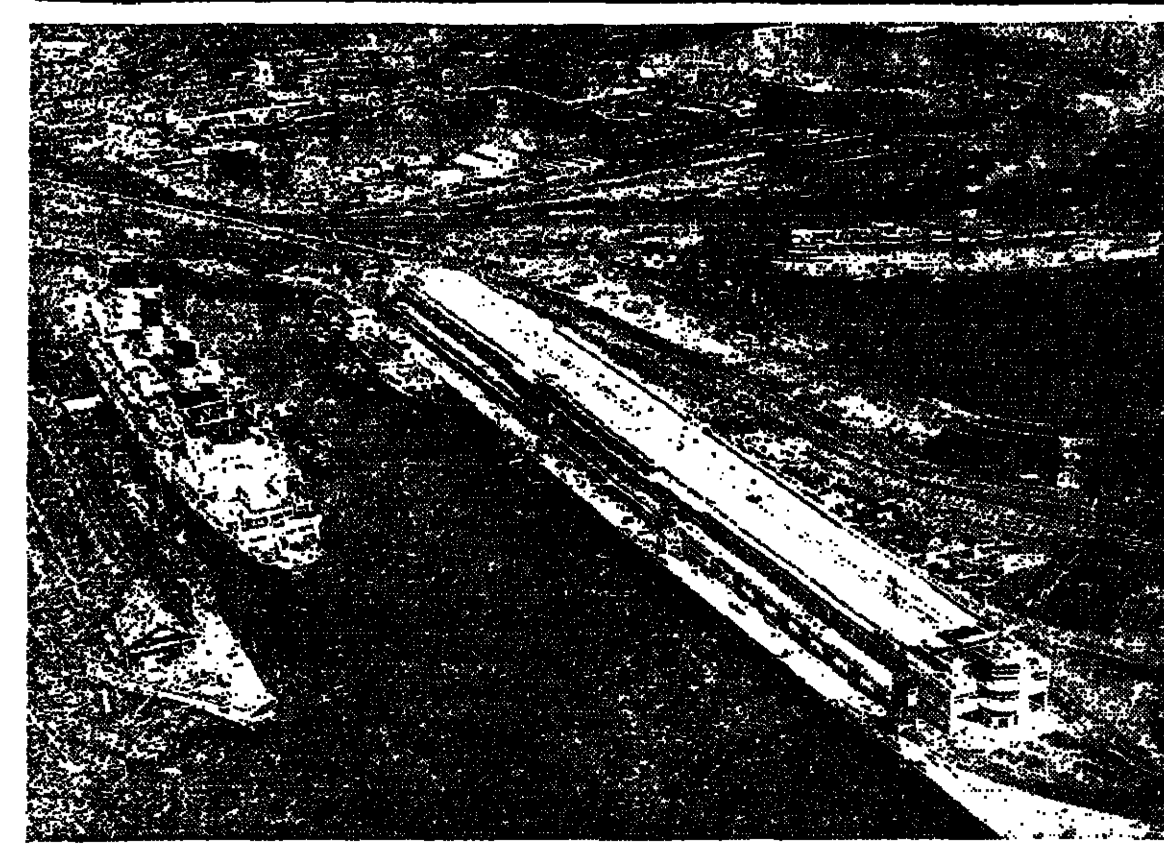
As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 6.00 Lookaround. 6.30-7.00 Bygones. 10.40 Your MP. 11.10 Film: In the Steps of a Dead Man. Army deserter takes in the parents of a dead soldier. 12.30am News. 12.33 Closedown.

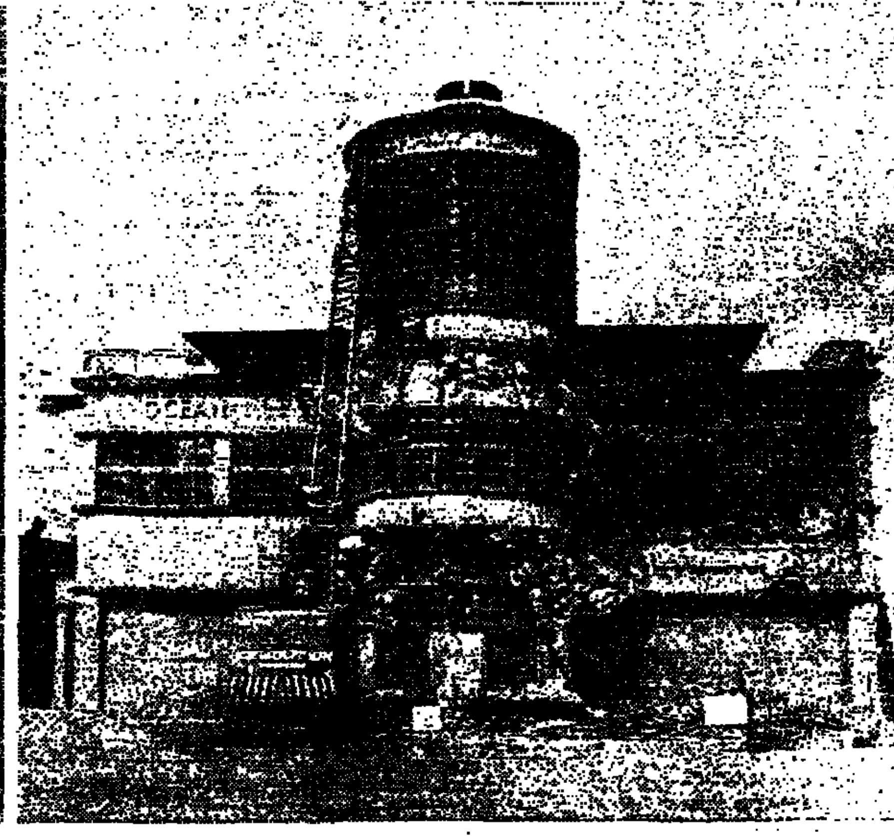
TVS

As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 6.00 Coast to Coast. 6.30-7.00 Friday Sportshow. 10.40 Friday Live: North v South debate. 12.10am Company.

CHANNEL

As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Channel Report. 6.25 Brady Bunch. 6.55-7.00 What's on Where. 10.45 Film: Get Carter! As TSW. 12.40am Closedown.





Last day of a glorious landmark

Age has caught up with the once maginficent dockside terminal at Southampton, seen above left in its heyday with the Queen Mary in dock and, right, yesterday receiving the attentions of a demolition company.

Millions of passengers from the great Cunarders passed through the noted landmark of glass and concrete reception station, which was built at a cost of £750,000 and opened by Mr Clement Atlee in June, 1950. The Queen Mary and Queen Elizabeth regularly berthed alongside

But yesterday time caught up with the 1,297ft-long building and a demolition contractor moved in, amid protests by some local people.

he decision to pull down the building was taken because of the deline in liner traffic. But the Southampton tourist group, made up of a consortium of local hotels and tourist businesses, had criticized the demolition.

"There is nothing we can do to stop this destruction of our maritime heritage, but we believe the haste with which it has been done is immoral and unforgivable."

Jenkin offers £200m aid for computer industry

By Clive Cookson, Technology Correspondent

The Government is to spend up to £200m over the next five years to help the British electronics industry develop a new generation of more advanced computers. The companies will have to contribute £150m if the scheme is to reach the target of £350m recommended by the Alvey Committee last September.

The project for advanced information technology, which Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Industry, announced yesterday, was inspired originally by the well-publicized Japanese effort to develop a "fifth generation" of computers for the 1990s, with "intelligence approaching that of a human being". The Government decided that, without an unprecedented cooperative effort with industry, Britain would fall hopelessly behind Japan and the United States.

The Government's response to Alvey falls short of the committee's proposal that it contribute £250m and industry £150m. The committee recommended that some projects in industry should receive 90 per cent public funding, but Mr Jenkin said that would not "secure a sufficient industrial commitment and could lead to the programme becoming divorced from industry's needs".

Therefore all industrial projects will receive 50 per cent public funding. However, the £50m-worth of work carried out in academic institutions will be financed entirely by the Government.

Mr Jenkin made clear:"The extent of the Government's contribution to the programme depends upon industry making its contribution and upon the programme's technical progress".

The 50 per cent ceiling on the Government's contribution will disappoint smaller electronics companies, which have lobbied for more generous treatment, arguing that they could not otherwise afford to take part.

British subsidiaries of the giant American-owned computer companies will also be disappointed. They are not excluded in principle from the programme, but many will balk at the Government's conditions.

"We *shall require* cast *iron* assurances that the work does not leak overseas", Mr Jenkin said.

The four priority areas of the Alvey scheme are:

- ☐ Software engineering, to give designers of information systems a more efficient way to generate computer programs;
- ☐ The "man-machine interface", in other words finding better ways for people to communicate with computers by touch, sight and voice;
- ☐ Expert systems, giving computers specialist knowledge about a subject and a program to apply it to a specific task such as medical diagnosis;
- ☐ Very large-scale integrated circuits, to create the next generation of extremely powerful microchips.

MPs and Whitehall 'technically ignorant'

An international conference on the social effects of modern technology ended in London yesterday with an appeal for more technical understanding from the world's policy makers.

Ignorance of science and engineering among politicians and civil servants made it more difficult to cope with the swift progress of technology, according to the closing statement from the Mantech symposium, organized by the Fellowship of Engineering.

British participants added that Whitehall and Westminster were particularly weak in scientific and technical expertise.

Sir Francis Tombs, the former chairman of the Electricity Council, said that the retirement of Sir James Hamilton from the Department of Education and Science left the Civil Service without a scientist or engineer among 42 permanent secretaries.

Syrian pressure 'delaying talks'

Continued from page 1

agreement between Israel and Lebanon.

The arrival of the American Secretary of State has been marked by an increase in tension between Israeli and Syrian troops in Lebanon's eastern Bekaa Valley and a vicious anti-American campaign by the Syrian state-controlled press.

"It is not true that Shultz is a messenger of peace. It is was so he could have dealt with the crisis while he was in Washington," the government newspaper *Tishrin* said.

The Syrian press also played up the significance of two minor confrontations with the Israelis in the Bekaa Valley, saying Israel was deliberately provoking the tension to coincide with the visit by Mr Shultz.

"This is not strange to us. The American State Department has shown us through *previous visits to the region by* its representatives that every time they make an approach to the area, they carry with them a conspiracy for which the Arabs invariably pay the price in the form of more death and destruction" said *Al Baath* organ of the ruling Socialist Baath Party in Damascus.

American officials briefing reporters on the plane carrying Mr Shultz to Beirut, blamed what they said was Syrian pressure on Lebanon, backed by the Soviet Union, for the stalled talks. Damascus was demanding a high price from Lebanon in return for the withdrawal of its forces, including a Syrian-Lebanese defence pact *and training of* the Lebanese Army in Syria.

One official was quoted as saying the current obstacles arose when "Syria suddenly and dramatically began increasing pressure on Lebanon".

The official was also quoted as saying the Soviet Union was encouraging the Syrians to "make moves that would limit American influence in Lebanon".

● TEL AVIV: The hectic pace of Mr Shultz's shuttle will continue unabated today when he is scheduled to hold his third meeting in less than 48 hours with Mr Begin, Christopher Walker writes.

So far it has been unclear to what extent the American government is prepared to put *direct pressure on* Israel to soften some of its most uncompromising positions regarding security and normalization, but a hint was given by Mr Shultz during an official banquet here on Wednesday

In a stern exhortation to his Israeli hosts, Mr Shultz said that the outstanding issues had been "debated, analysed, pored over, agonized over. Now is the time to resolve them . . . there is a time to debate and a time to decide. Now is the time to decide.

Frank Johnson in the Commons

Salvador and Surrey by Foot's Tours

Both Central America and Surrey County Council's rate increases were among the subjects which Mr Michael Foot, ever the man for the broad sweep, raised yesterday when a renewed trough of "pre-election atmosphere" enveloped the House.

Mr Foot is usually more at home with the easy generalities of foreign affairs that with the endless detail of the issues which more directly affect Labour voters.

Speaking yesterday on the morrow of Mr Reagan's important speech on Central America, Mr Foot manifestly wanted us to believe once more the routine left-wing tale, told over the years in connexion with many a troubled corner of the globe, *about a reactionary right-wing* regime which was backed by the Church and local industrialists and which was extorting from the peasants and denying them land reform.

But then, Mr Foot has never really understood Surrey. The situation in that region was raised during exchanges between him and the Prime Minister concerning the rating system.

He demanded to know at Prime Minister's question time by how much rates had *increased under Mrs Thatcher's* Government. "Too much", Mrs Thatcher replied, "especially in Labour-controlled authorities". At that reply, Labour backbenchers expressed outrage. Mr Foot rose again, and peered down into a sheet of paper which he placed on the Dispatch Box.

"Rates have increased in general over the country by 75 per cent. How much could they have been reduced if she had not cut the rate support grant", he said, as if to prove that he too has a command of the narrow sweep.

"Rates are highest in Labour-controlled areas", the Prime Minister insisted. Now she, too, reached ominously for a piece of paper. She began to read in a determined monotone. "The 18 largest spenders are the Greater London Council, the Inner London Education Authority, the West Midlands, Greater Manchester, Avon, Southwark, Sheffield, Greenwich, Tyne and Wear . . ."

It began to look as if we were in for something of the length of *English Journey* by J. B. Priestley. But a timely cacophony on the Labour benches overwhelmed the drone of the Prime Minister's itinerary. All we could eventually hear was her voice rising at the end to a cry of "Labour loves spending other people's money".

It was then that Mr Foot made his major geo-political move. "How much have rates increased in Surrey, controlled by the Conservatives?" he asked, triumphantly. Mrs Thatcher hesitated. Labour backbenchers shouted

"They are much too high in Surrey," she eventually replied. Unusually, Mr Foot had halted a Thatcher offensive, and on, of all subjects, the rates in Surrey. It is likely that Mr Foot would only recognize a set of figures from the Surrey county treasury's department if they came at him disguised as a Nicaraguan revolutionary proclamation. That made his triumph over Mrs Thatcher yesterday all the more remarkable.

Hastily, she began talking about how on average rates had decreased by 6.5 per cent and that things would have been better but for the GLC and ILEA. But Mr Foot remained on the Opposition front bench, serene in victory.

Having beaten the Prime Minister in Surrey, he could now open a second front in *Central America. When Mr* John Biffen, the Leader of the House, arrived at the dispatch box to make the routine Thursday announcement of the business for the coming week, Mr Foot waylaid him with a demand for a statement next week "as to whether the Government was consulted before President Reagan made his speech, whether the Government has done anything to uphold its commitments or allegiance to the charter of the United Nations . . ."

Soon we were confronted with a more typical Mr Foot, off again on a nature ramble. All manner of disconnected thoughts began to swirl around beneath that such-loved, white mane

"Has the Government made representations about Nicaragua, El Salvador and . . . er. . . . those other countries involved."

But we had no doubt that if necessary he could stall all afternoon, trying our various ideas in his mind, until reasonably plausible ones turned up. Costa Rica? Costa Living? Be it Salvador or Surrey, it is all grist to Mr Foot in humanity's struggle.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

Prince Michael of Kent visits JCB at Rochester, Uttoxeter, as President of the Institute of the Motor Industry, 11.

Princess Alexandra opens the new control room at West Sussex County Fire Brigade Headquarters, Chichester, 12; opens the Mothers' Unit, funded by Concern for Life, at St Richard's District General Hospital, Chichester, 1.45; opens the new swimming centre of Arun District Council at Littlehampton, 2.45; attends two receptions in Worthing to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of Worthing Area Guild for Voluntary Service, arrives Methold House, Gordon Road, 3.45 and then arrives Ashmount, Shelley Road, 4.15.

New exhibitions

Paintings by Venessa Bell, Royal Museum and Art Gallery, High Street, Canterbury: Mon to Sat 10 to 5, closed Sun (from today until May 28).

Last chance to see

Out Of This World, arts of science fiction, Art Gallery and Museum, School Hill, Aberdeen: Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Thurs 10 to 8, Sun 2 to 5 (ends tomorrow).

Experimental Photography, Museum and Art Gallery, 78 George Street, Perth: Mon to Sat 10 to 1 and 2 to 5, closed Sun (ends tomorrow).

Paintings and drawings by Mostyn Bramley Moore, MacRobert Arts Centre Gallery, Stirling University; Mon to Sat 11 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (ends tomorrow).

Work by Jane Boyd, Queen's Gate, Trinity College, Cambridge: *Tues to Sat 10 to 6 (ends tomorrow).*

Steam Power: drawings and paintings by Josephine Gausson Whitehead, City Museum, Market Street, Lancaster; Mon to Fri 10 to 5, Sat 10 to 3 (ends tomorrow).

A Dig Into the Past: exhibition on digs by the Development Corporation Archaeologists, Central Library, Milton Keynes: Mon to Wed 9 to 6, Thurs to Fri 9 to 8, St 9 to 5 (ends tomorrow).

Work by David Hack, Nich Sheath and Mike Owens, abbey Mill Gallery, The Broadway, Winchester, Tues to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5, closed Mon (ends tomorrow).

Work by John Chapman and Christine McKelvey, Museum and Art Gallery, Library Street, Blackburn; Mon to Fri 9.30 to 6, Sat 9.30 to 5, closed Sun (ends tomorrow).

Music

Concert by Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Royal Concert Hall, Nottingham, 7.30.

Concert by *Mladi Ensemble*, Mere Parish Church, Wilts, 7.30.

Concert by University of Glasgow Orchestra, Concert Hall, Glasgow University, 8.

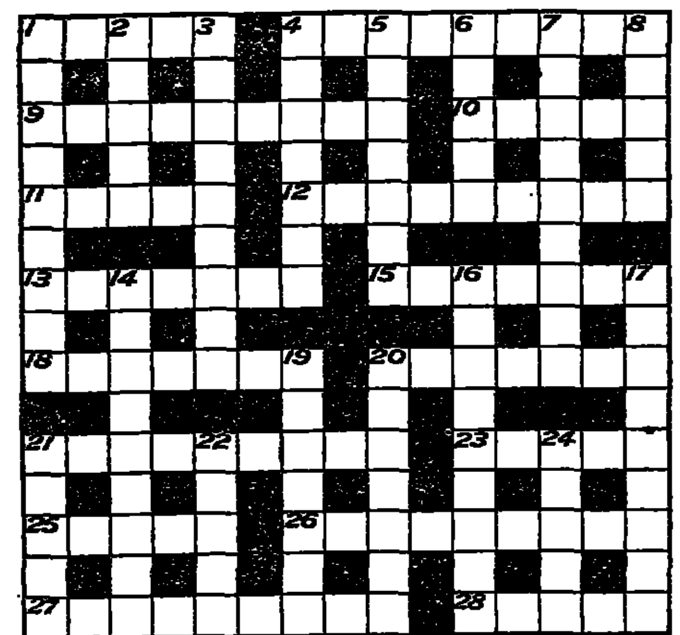
Talks, lectures

Plants and People in the Yorkshire Dales, by Dr John Rodwell, Duke's Playhouse, Lancaster University, 12.35.

General

Colt Car Amberley Horse Show and Country Fair, Cirencester Park, Glos (until May 2).

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,116



ACROSS

1 Fish with worm's tail for a spell (5).
4 *Perhaps some fire in an inferior* novel? (3-6).
9 Like this rogue reformed (9).
10 Vestment taken by an old-time saint (5).
11 Peasant leader in merely temporary retirement (5).
12 Gelatine is where you'd expect to find beer (9).
13 Getting money for relatives in Irish port? (7).
15 Opening speaker looking bored? (7).
18 Was beaten by inferior force, perhaps (7).
20 Soldier sounds nutty (7).
21 Apt clue I'd maybe copy (9).
23 Note form of transport sought by knights of old (5).
25 Constable, the painter, has source of oil (5).
26 Structure of aeroplanes in flight perhaps (9).
27 Desire transport? (9).
28 *Irish* town's sporting set without a leader (5).

DOWN

1 Play the part of a custodian (9).
2 The price once of some spirit? (5).
3 Walker's not in this procession (9).
4 View of features for the papers (7).
5 Bear witness to rise of youth leader? Well put (7).
6 Ape, in short, has no end of fruit (5).
7 Book-keeper who records loans, perhaps (9).
8 Old characters nurse maltreated (5).
14 Stationery requirement of the Bank of England (9).
16 Old German title – glad Vera West translated it (9).
17 *Beat up the joiners of course!* (4-5).
19 Dealings in jam? (7).
20 "And thinner, —, farther going!" (Tennyson) (7).
21 Garments disliked by cricketers (5).
22 Angry Hook losing his head (5).
24 *Foreigner can spell aright* (5).

Solution of Puzzle No 16,115

Prize Crossword in The Times tomorrow

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 10

Anniversaries

Births: **John Lubbock**, 1st Baron Avebury, banker, politician and archaeologist, London, 1834; **Sir Thomas Beecham**, St Helen's, Lancashire, 1879; **Sir Malcolm Sargent**, Ashford, Kent, *1895*; **Duke Ellington**, Washington, 1899. **James Montgomery**, poet and hymn writer died at Sheffield, 1854.

Today is the Feast of Saint Catherine of Siena. She became a Dominican tertiary and travelled widely, calling for repentance and a *renewal of faith. During the last few* years of her life Catherine became involved in the conflict between Church and state. She was canonized in 1461 and declared a Doctor of the Church in 1970. Her house can still be seen in Siena.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Private members' Bills: Copyright (Amendment) Bill, report. Coroners' Juries Bill, committee.

Food prices

For those spending the holiday weekend at home, an important consideration should be how to relieve the burden on the family cook: part of the answer could lie in cold lunches, particularly as salad vegetables are becoming cheaper and more plentiful. At the top end of the market Harrods have fresh wild salmon at £7.80 a pound and the farmed variety at £5, but a very acceptable substitute is Bejam frozen Pacific salmon for as little as £1.59. Baked in tinfoil, it is ideally served with cucumber (25-45p each) and either watercress at 22-25p a bunch, or lettuce – Cos and Webbs are probably best value at 20p to 40p each. Superb hothouse tomatoes are 60-65p a pound and will stay fresh over the holiday; also recommended are Cyprus spring crop potatoes at 18-22p a pound.

Strawberries from Spain, Italy and Israel are 40-70p for a half pound punnet; passion fruit 12-15p each and lovely lemons at 5-15p.

Home-produced lamb is still expensive, although not unreasonable for the time of year. Whole legs of pork are between 76p and £1.10 a pound; Tesco have it at 88p, and Waitrose are selling hand of pork at 48p a pound and rolled boneless *spare rib at £1.08. Fine Fare pork* chops are down from £1.22 to 96p a pound, and fresh chickens are also reduced to 54p a pound.

National day

The Japanese today celebrate the birtday of Emperor Hirohito, who was born on April 29, 1901. The emperor, who has written nine books on marine biology, succeeded to the throne in 1926. The government is currently headed by Mr Yasuhire Nakasone, who took office last November

Top films

Top box-office films in London:
1 (1) Sophie's Choice
2 (2) Gandhi
3 (–) The Wicked Lady
4 (6) 10 to Midnight
5 (3) Local Hero
6 (7) Heat and Dust
7 (4) An Officer and a Gentleman
8 (–) Tales of Ordinary Madness
9 (9) The Verdict
10 (8) Best Friends

The top five in the provinces:
1 Gandhi
2 Local Hero
3 Raiders of the Lost Ark
4 E.T.
5 An Officer and a Gentleman

Supplied by Screen International

Top video rentals

1 Annie (RCA/Columbia)
2 The Evil Deed (Palace)
3 Arthur (Warner)
4 Amityville II – The Possession (Thorn EMI)
5 Kramer vs Kramer (RCA/Columbia)
6 Fort Apache – The Bronx (VTC)
7 Conan The Barbarian (Thorn EMI)
8 Airplane (CIC)
9 Death Wish II (RCA/Columbia)
10 Stripes (RCA/Columbia)

Supplied by Video Business

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Roads

London and South-east: A13: Roadworks at Barking, Dagenham and Limehouse. A11: Congestion likely between Stratford and Bow. M3: Lane closures between junctions 2 (Staines) and 4 (Frimley).

Wales and West: A40: Roadworks on Haverfordwest to Fishguard road at Wolf's Castle. A467: Roadworks N of Crumlin, between Risca and Abertillery, Gwent. M5: Lane closures between junctions 24 (Minehead) and 26 (Wellington).

Midlands and East Anglia: A47: Temporary signals at Wisbech, Cambridgeshire. M1: Lane closures at junction 16 (Northampton); sliproads closed except exit from southbound carriageway. A5: Roadworks on Shrewsbury to Oswestry road at Queens Head.

North: M6: Lane closures between junctions 25 (A49, Wigan) and 27 (A5209, Wigan/Standish) Greater Manchester.

A50: Manual traffic control at Lawton crossroads, NW of Kidsgrove, Cheshire. A1: Roadworks at Boroughbridge, N Yorks.

Scotland: A90: Lane closures on Forth Road Bridge. A91: Single lane traffic near Auchtermuchty, Fife. A9: Single lane traffic at Bonar Bridge, Sutherland.

Information supplied by the AA.

The papers

The Daily Mirror criticizes Mrs Shirley Goodwin and her solicitor for announcing that she will not speak publicly without receiving a five-figure sum. "The *Daily Mirror* won't offer a penny for (her) story, and we hope no other paper will either. . . . Offering to buy stories of potential witnesses has been a blot on Fleet Street – but what about those who try to sell them?"

Mrs Thatcher this week repeated the Tory pledge to reform the rating system, and not before time, says the Daily Express. "This time she must not let civil servants bamboozle her ministers into thinking nothing can be done – much can be done and must be done."

The pound

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	1.88	1.79
Austria Sch	28.40	26.60
Belgium Fr	79.50	75.50
Canada $	1.98	1.90
Denmark Kr	14.22	13.50
Finland Mkk	8.90	8.40
France Fr	12.00	11.40
Germany DM	3.99	3.790
Greece Dr	136.00	127.00
Hongkong $	11.13	10.55
Ireland Pt	1.27	1.21
Italy Lira	2355.00	2245.00
Japan Yen	391.00	371.00
Netherlands Gld	4.49	4.27
Norway Kr	11.60	11.00
Portugal Esc	170.00	152.00
South Africa Rd	2.04	1.900
Spain Pta	216.00	205.00
Sweden Kr	12.22	11.60
Switzerland Fr	3.36	3.18
USA $	1.62	1.55
Yugoslavia Dnr	126.50	119.50

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Retail Price Index: 327.9.

London: The *FT* Index closed down 2.2 at 696.8.

Weather

A depression will remain slow-moving in the North Sea, and a slack area of low pressure will persist over the British Isles.

6 am to midnight

London, SE England, East Anglia, Midlands: Fog patches clearing, sunny periods, scattered showers developing, some heavy, perhaps with thunder; wind variable, light or moderate; max temp 15 or 16C (50 to 61F).

Central S, SW England, Channel Islands, SWales: Sunny intervals, showers, heavy and with thunder in places; wind variable, mainly SE, light or moderate, occasionally fresh; max temp 13 to 15C (55 to 59F).

E, Central N, NE England, Borders; Cloudy, outbreaks of rain slowly dying out, clear intervals developing late; wind W, fresh, backing S, moderate; max temp or 10C (48 to 50F).

N Wales, NW England, Lake District: Cloudy, outbreaks of rain slowly dying out, sunny or clear intervals developing, wind variable, becoming mainly N, moderate: max temp 9 or 10C (48 to 50F).

Isle of Man, Argyll, NW Scotland, Northern Ireland: Sunny intervals, scattered showers; wind Nor NW moderate, locally fresh; max temp 10 or 11C (50 to 52F).

Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Rather cloudy, perhaps a little drizzle at first, bright or sunny intervals developing; wind N or NW, moderate, locally fresh; max temp 9 to 11C (48 to 52F).

SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands: Mainly dry, sunny periods developing; wind mainly N, light; max temp 10 to 12C (50 to 52F).

Outlook for the weekend: Continuing unsettled with *near* or rather below normal temperatures; overnight frost and fog in places.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea, English Channel (E), Strait of Dover: Wind SW, light or moderate; sea slight. **St George's Channel, Irish Sea:** Wind variable, light or moderate; sea slight.

Sun rises: 5.38 am | Sun sets: 8.20 pm
Moon 6.56 am | Moon: 11.04 pm
Last quarter: May 5.

Lighting-up time

London 8.50 pm to 5.06 am
Bristol 8.59 pm to 5.15 am
Edinburgh 9.17 pm to 5.03 am
Manchester 9.04 pm to 5.06 am
Penzance 9.07 pm to 5.31 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

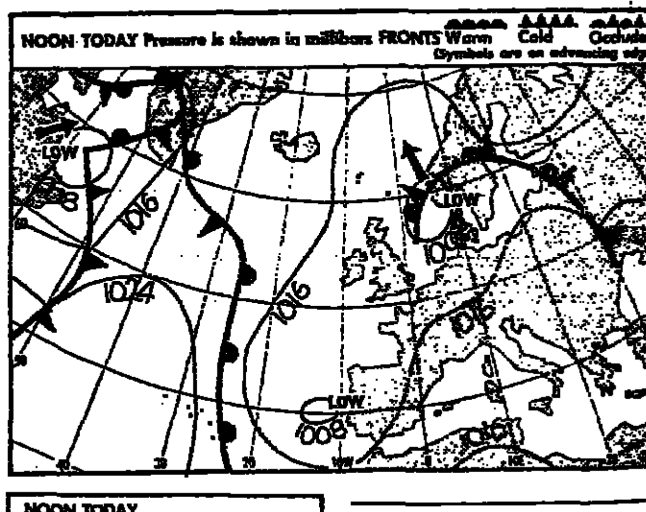
		C	F			C	F
Belfast	r	10	50	Guernsey	f	11	52
Birmingham	c	11	52	Inverness	c	8	46
Blackpool	r	8	46	Jersey	s	11	52
Bristol	c	12	54	London	f	14	57
Cardiff	f	12	54	Manchester	c	11	52
Edinburgh	r	9	48	Newcastle	r	7	45
Glasgow	f	11	52	Ronaldsway	f	9	48

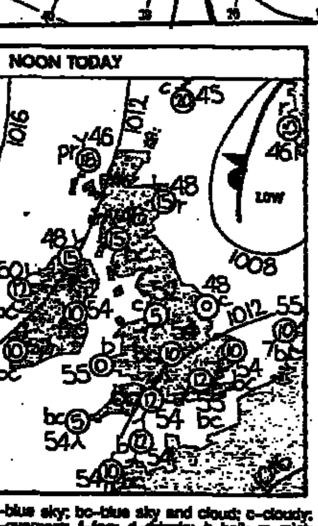
London

Yesterday: Temp: max 7 am to 7 pm, 16C (61F); min 7 pm to 7 am, 7C (45F). Humidity: 7 pm, 51 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 7 pm, 0.01in. Sun: 24hr to 7 pm, 8.8hr. Bar, mean sea level, 7 pm, 1,010.2 millibars
1,000 millibars = 29.53in.

Highest and lowest

Yesterday: Highest day temp: London, Hemsby, 16C (61F); lowest day max: St Abb's Head, 6C (43F); highest rainfall: Tynemouth, 1.33in; highest sunshine: Thanet, 12hr.





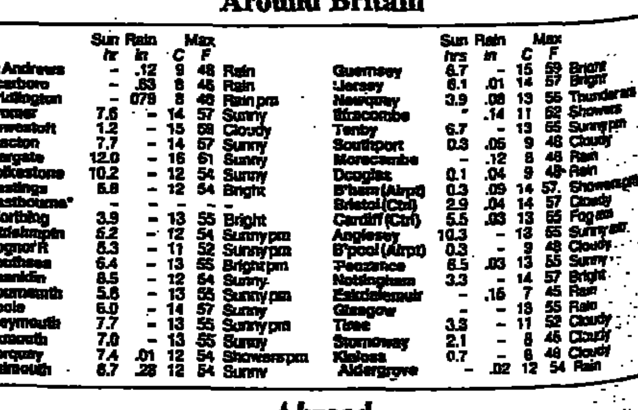
b-blue sky; bc-blue sky and cloud; c-cloudy; o-overcast; f-fog; d-drizzle; h-hail; m-mist; r-rain; s-snow; th-thunderstorm; p-showers. Arrows show wind direction, wind speed (mph) circled, temperatures fahrenheit.

High tides

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	4.0	7.2	4.22	7.3
Aberdeen	3.22	4.1	3.37	4.1
Avonmouth	9.27	13.5	9.47	13.4
Belfast	12.57	3.3	1.17	3.4
Cardiff	9.11	12.4	9.31	12.4
Devonport	8.06	5.4	8.21	5.4
Dover	12.57	6.7	1.19	6.5
Falmouth	7.35	5.2	7.51	5.2
Glasgow	3.05	4.6	3.05	4.9
Harwich	1.52	4.2	2.17	4.1
Holyhead	12.12	6.6	12.32	5.5
Hull	8.27	7.4	8.42	7.5
Ilfracombe	8.10	9.1	8.29	9.1
Leith	4.38	5.5	5.02	5.8
Liverpool	1.11	9.4	1.29	9.3
Lowestoft	11.48	2.3	11.59	2.5
Margate	2.0	4.8	2.26	4.7
Milford Haven	8.26	7.0	8.42	7.0
Newquay	7.16	7.0	7.32	7.0
Oban	7.48	3.9	8.05	3.9
Penzance	7.05	5.5	7.21	5.5
Portland	9.10	2.1	9.27	2.1
Portsmouth	1.25	4.8	1.48	4.6
Shoreham	1.05	6.3	1.26	6.1
Southampton	12.47	4.6	1.06	4.5
Swansea	8.34	8.6	8.49	8.5
Tees	5.48	5.3	6.8	5.5
Walton-on-Naze	1.42	4.2	2.03	4.2

Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

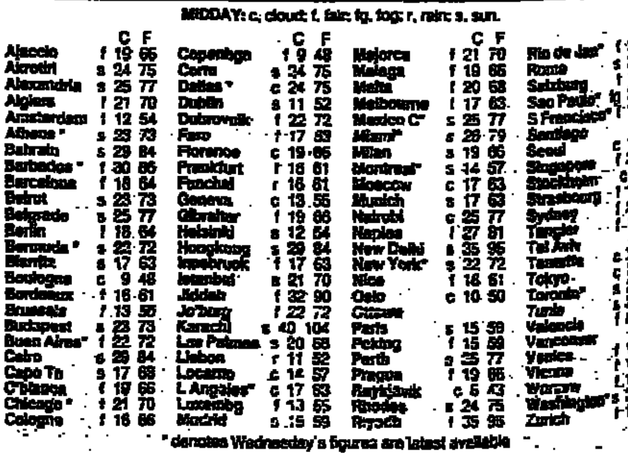
Around Britain



	Sun hr	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
St Andrews	–	.12	9	48	Rain
Scarboro	–	.63	8	46	Rain
Bridlington	–	.079	8	46	Rain pm
Cromer	7.6	–	14	57	Sunny
Lowestoft	1.2	–	15	59	Cloudy
Clacton	7.7	–	14	57	Sunny
Margate	12.0	–	16	61	Sunny
Folkestone	10.2	–	12	54	Sunny
Hastings	5.8	–	12	54	Bright
Eastbourne*	–	–	–	–	–
Worthing	3.9	–	13	55	Bright
Littlehmptn	6.2	–	12	54	Sunny pm
Bognor R	6.3	–	11	52	Sunny pm
Southsea	6.4	–	13	55	Bright pm
Shanklin	8.5	–	12	54	Sunny
Bournemouth	5.8	–	13	55	Sunny pm
Poole	6.0	–	14	57	Sunny
Weymouth	7.7	–	13	55	Sunny pm
Exmouth	7.0	–	13	55	Sunny
Torquay	7.4	.01	12	54	Showers pm
Falmouth	6.7	.28	12	54	Sunny

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Guernsey	6.7	–	15	59	Bright
Jersey	6.1	.01	14	57	Bright
Newquay	3.9	.08	13	55	Thunder am
Ilfracombe	*	.14	11	52	Showers
Tenby	6.7	–	13	55	Sunny pm
Southport	0.3	.05	9	48	Cloudy
Morecambe	–	.12	8	46	Rain
Douglas	0.1	.04	9	48	Rain
B'ham (Airpt)	0.3	.09	14	57	Showers pm
Bristol (Ctrl)	2.9	.04	14	57	Cloudy
Cardiff (Ctrl)	5.5	.03	13	55	Fog am
Anglesey	10.3	–	13	55	Sunny am
B'pool (Airpt)	0.3	–	9	48	Cloudy
Penzance	6.5	.03	13	55	Sunny
Nottingham	3.3	–	14	57	Bright
Eskdalemuir	–	.16	7	45	Rain
Glasgow	–	–	13	55	Rain
Tiree	3.3	–	11	52	Cloudy
Stornoway	2.1	–	8	46	Cloudy
Kinloss	0.7	–	8	46	Cloudy
Aldergrove	–	.02	12	54	Rain

Abroad



MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; fg, fog; r, rain; s, sun.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Ajaccio	f	19	66	Copenhgn	f	9	48	Majorca	f	21	70	Rio de Jan*	f	25	77
Akrotiri	s	24	75	Corfu	s	24	75	Malaga	f	19	66	Rome	s	20	68
Alexandria	s	25	77	Dallas*	c	24	75	Malta	f	20	68	Salzburg	f	19	66
Algiers	f	21	70	Dublin	s	11	52	Melbourne	f	17	63	Sao Paulo*	fg	25	77
Amsterdam	f	12	54	Dubrovnik	f	22	72	Mexico C*	s	25	77	S Francisco*	f	12	54
Athens*	s	23	73	Faro	f	17	63	Miami*	s	26	79	Santiago			
Bahrain	s	29	84	Florence	c	19	66	Milan	s	19	66	Seoul	c	16	61
Barbados*	f	30	86	Frankfurt	f	16	61	Montreal*	s	14	57	Singapore	f	32	90
Barcelona	f	18	64	Funchal	r	16	61	Moscow	c	17	63	Stockholm	c	7	45
Beirut	s	23	73	Geneva	c	13	55	Munich	s	17	63	Strasbourg	f	18	64
Belgrade	s	25	77	Gibraltar	f	19	66	Nairobi	c	25	77	Sydney	f	20	68
Berlin	f	18	64	Helsinki	s	12	54	Naples	f	27	81	Tangier	f	17	63
Bermuda*	s	22	72	Hongkong	s	29	84	New Delhi	s	35	95	Tel Aviv	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Biarritz	s	17	63	Innsbruck	f	17	63	New York*	s	22	72	Tenerife	c	23	73
Boulogne	c	9	48	Istanbul	s	21	70	Nice	f	16	61	Tokyo	s	23	73
Bordeaux	f	16	61	Jiddah	f	32	90	Oslo	c	10	50	Toronto*	s	25	77
Brussels	f	13	55	Jo'burg	f	22	72	Ottawa				Tunis	f	21	70
Budapest	s	23	73	Karachi	s	40	104	Paris	s	15	59	Valencia			
Buen Aires*	f	22	72	Las Palmas	s	20	68	Peking	f	15	59	Vancouver	f	19	66
Cairo	s	29	84	Lisbon	r	11	52	Perth	s	25	77	Venice	f	18	64
Cape Tn	s	17	63	Locarno	c	14	57	Prague	f	19	66	Vienna	f	18	64
C'blanca	f	19	66	L Angeles*	c	17	63	Reykjavik	c	6	43	Warsaw	f	27	81
Chicago*	s	21	70	Luxembg	f	13	55	Rhodes	s	24	75	Washington*	s	[illegible]	[illegible]
Cologne	f	16	66	Madrid	s	15	59	Riyadh	f	35	95	Zurich	f	17	63

* denotes Wednesday's figures are latest available